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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE OIL PROJECT

PUBLIC COMMENTS

September 27, 2011

Dawson Community College

300 College Drive

Glendive, Montana

59330

4:00 p.m.

Reported by:

CHARLES D. HOFFMAN

1 APPEARANCES

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3 JAMES STEELE, U.S. Department of State, presiding officer.

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PROCEEDINGS

(4:30 p.m.)

MR. STEELE: Ladies and gentlemen, hello
and good afternoon. My name is Jim Steele. I am
from the Bureau of Oceans, International and
Environmental Scientific Affairs of the United
States Department of State. On behalf of the
Department of State, we would like to thank you for
joining us at this public meeting in Glendive,
Montana on the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline.

We recognize that this is an important issue,
and we value your input. We would also like to
thank Dawson Community College for agreeing to host
this meeting, and we would like to thank all of the
staff members of the college for their assistance in
conducting the meeting and making sure that the
arrangements were so good.

The purpose of this meeting is for members of
the public to express their views on whether issuing
a presidential permit for the proposed Keystone XL
Pipeline is in the national interest of the United
States. To focus time and attention on your

1 comments, we will not be answering questions at this
2 meeting or at any of the other public meetings that
3 are taking place now in South Dakota, Nebraska,
4 Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and later next month, in
5 Washington D.C..

6 We appreciate the interest of every person in
7 this room to take the time to share their
8 perspectives about this issue. We take your
9 comments seriously, and we will consider them
10 carefully. We understand that there are strong
11 views and feelings about this issue. This is an
12 opportunity for you to express those views. But we
13 ask that each of you respect the rules that we have
14 established, so that we can hear from as many people
15 as possible. We ask this to be fair and to be
16 respectful to everyone who has taken the time to
17 attend this meeting.

18 Before we begin with the actual meeting, I
19 would like to describe the role of the Department of
20 State, in the presidential permitting process, and
21 to lay out the ground rules for participating in the
22 meeting.

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1 In September of 2008, TransCanada Keystone
2 Pipeline LP filed an application for a presidential
3 permit for the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline. An
4 executive order, 13,337, signed on April 30, 2004,
5 delegates to the Department of State the authority
6 to issue a presidential permit for facilities, such
7 as the Keystone XL pipeline, that cross the U.S.
8 border.

9 In considering a permit, the Department of
10 State determines whether allowing the border
11 crossing is in the national interest, taking into
12 account environmental and safety issues, as well as
13 energy security, foreign policy and social and
14 economic concerns.

15 In addition to the executive order, the
16 department determined, because of the importance of
17 the proposed pipeline, that it should evaluate the
18 pipeline's possible environmental and safety
19 impacts, consistent with the National Environmental
20 Policy Act, or NEPA. As a consequence, the State
21 Department prepared an environmental impact
22 statement, consistent with NEPA, to evaluate the
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1 proposed pipeline's potential environmental and
2 safety impacts.

3 In preparing the EIS over the past two and a
4 half years, we have conducted, already, some 41
5 public meetings along the pipeline route and in
6 Washington D.C. in order to gather public comments
7 in developing the scope and the draft of the
8 environmental impact statement.

9 On August 26th, we released the final
10 environmental impact statement, which addresses more
11 than 250,000 comments taken from the public comment
12 periods. The final environmental impact statement
13 is just one factor considered in the review process.
14 It does not, and I stress, it does not represent a
15 final decision on the permit application.

16 Now, as we move into the national interest
17 determination, the Department of State is compiling
18 additional information to determine if the proposed
19 Keystone XL Pipeline is in the national interest and
20 to decide whether to grant or to deny the permit.

21 A little bit about the ground rules for today's
22 meeting. In order to maximize public participation
23

1 and to be fair to all meeting participants, we ask
2 that you abide by these rules of order. We hope to
3 have the opportunity to listen to everyone who
4 wishes to speak, and in order to allow the maximum
5 amount of participation, we would ask that you limit
6 your comments to three minutes.

7 We will have several speakers that are elected
8 representatives and representatives of elected
9 representatives of the people speak first, and then
10 we will move in to the regular phase. I'll get to
11 those in a minute.

12 Given the interest in this issue, it's possible
13 that not everyone who is attending here today will
14 be able to speak. If you do not have the
15 opportunity to speak, there are several avenues
16 available to you to have your comments recorded and
17 included in the consideration.

18 When you entered the hall today, you were given
19 a sheet of paper. On the reverse of that sheet
20 there is space for you to write comments. You can
21 leave those comments at the box just outside the
22 door. It's also possible for you to e-mail

1 comments, to fax comments or to mail comments.

2 These comments are due by October 9th. All of these
3 comments will be considered.

4 Speakers will be making their comments on a
5 first come, first served basis by the assigned
6 numbers that they received when they signed in at
7 the door. After a speaker ends, the next number and
8 name will be called. Since we really can't
9 anticipate exactly how long each person will speak,
10 we really can't estimate when we will get to your
11 number.

12 When your number is called, we ask that you
13 come to the microphone to state your name and
14 affiliation and offer your comments. As you speak,
15 you will be timed for the three minute period. When
16 your time is up, we respectfully request you to
17 finish your comments, and if you do run out of time,
18 you can provide additional comments on the written
19 comment sheet. Again, that was in the handout that
20 you received when you entered the meeting hall
21 today.

22 All oral and written comments will be

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1 considered as part of the record of decision. They
2 will be reviewed by the Department of State during
3 the decision making process. All of the comments
4 that are made here today will be recorded and
5 transcribed by a court reporter. Written comments
6 will be accepted until October 9th, 2011.

7 Department of State Officials are here to
8 listen to your comments, so that they can be
9 considered. We will not be engaging in a question
10 and answer session because we want to maximize the
11 time available for the public to make their
12 comments.

13 Again, we understand that there are strong
14 views on this issue, and we ask that, in fairness to
15 everyone concerned, those who choose to speak be
16 allowed to do so without interruption. We further
17 request that no displays or signs be posted in the
18 building.

19 As we mentioned earlier, please be sure to keep
20 your remarks to no more than three minutes and to
21 please be respectful of other speakers. In order
22 not to disturb others, please turn off your cell

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1 phones or set them to the silent setting. We plan
2 on ending this meeting at 10:00 p.m. this evening.

3 Please do not walk across or use the basketball
4 court. It's cordoned off for a reason. We would
5 ask that you not use that space. If you do come on
6 to that space, you may be asked to leave it.

7 The scoreboard will tell you what number is
8 speaking. That will be in the guest score column.
9 It will also tell you how much time you have left to
10 speak. When the clock shows zero, we would
11 appreciate you finishing your comments and ceding
12 your place to the next speaker.

13 Again, I want to stress one important factor.
14 The department has not yet made a decision on this
15 matter, and your comments today will help us in
16 reaching that decision. Thank you very, very much
17 for your interest and for coming to this meeting. I
18 will now start with the first speaker. I would like
19 to invite Congressman Rehberg please.

20 CONGRESSMAN REHBERG: Good afternoon and
21 thank you very much for being here to listen to the
22 people of Montana, and to those of you in the

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1 audience, thank you for attending as well. I will
2 not belabor my point because I have plenty of
3 opportunity to speak out in favor of this granting
4 of the permit. As the Secretary of State knows, I
5 have written a letter in support, and the audience
6 may not know, but before the August break, the
7 United States Congress voted 279 to 147 on a piece
8 of legislation asking the President to grant this
9 permit. So, the United States House of
10 Representatives in an overwhelming, bipartisan
11 majority, is on record in support. So, we hope that
12 you will look favorably upon this permit, and I
13 thank you for giving me this opportunity. And thank
14 you again, and the audience, for taking the time to
15 be here to state something that I think is very
16 important just in the job creation aspect of
17 building a more secure future for the people of
18 Montana and this nation through this project. So,
19 again, thank you.
20 (Applause.)

21 MR. STEELE: Thank you, Congressman. I
22 would like to now call State Senator Brenden,
23

1 please.

2 SENATOR BRENDEN: Thank you Mr. Steele,
3 for being here and welcome all members of the State
4 Department. For the record, my name is John
5 Brenden. I represent Senate District Number 18,
6 which comprises six counties in Northeastern
7 Montana. Two of those counties have the proposed XL
8 Pipeline running through them, and that is Phillips
9 and Valley Counties.

10 We, in rural Montana and rural America, have
11 been suffering for a long time for various different
12 reasons. Sometimes we feel that we're the stepchild
13 of government and the stepchild of urban America.
14 We're sitting right here, right now with the
15 greatest potential for natural resource development
16 that there is, so that we can be dependant only on
17 ourselves for our natural resources that we need to
18 fuel this economy.

19 My Senate district is bigger than nine
20 individual states and Washington D.C., runs about
21 210 miles long. It's very, very rural. Not only
22 would this be a good situation for our people up in

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1 this neck of the woods, but every other state as
2 well. But more important, it helps us to get energy
3 independence, so that we're not sending out money to
4 foreign regimes that are fighting against the United
5 States of America. We can not keep borrowing more
6 and more money from China and Japan and other
7 countries. And how do we quit that? We develop our
8 own natural resources.

9 And so Mr. Steele, I would urge you to take
10 back, to the Secretary of State and the President of
11 the United States, our thought that we want this
12 pipeline to go. We are called The Treasure State,
13 we are The Treasure State because we are the Saudi
14 Arabia of coal. We have oil resources. We have gas
15 resources. We have timber. So paraphrasing
16 something very biblical that Moses said to the
17 Pharaoh, he said, "Let my people go." And I will
18 paraphrase it and say, let our people go to work.
19 Let our people go to work and bring this country
20 back to the strength that it should be, that it has
21 been in the past, so that we can be a strong
22 democracy in this world. Thank you very much.

1 (Applause.)

2 MR. STEELE: I'd like to next call
3 Commissioner Bill Kennedy, who is representing
4 Governor Schweitzer.

5 MR. KENNEDY: Thank you Mr. Steele, thank
6 you for the opportunity to address you, and I look
7 forward to the Secretary hearing our comments,
8 today, from the state of Montana.

9 It's an honor for me to speak, to read the
10 letter from the state of Montana, Governor Brian
11 Sweitzer. As the governor speaks, he says, "Thank
12 you for providing this opportunity for Montanans to
13 comment on whether the Keystone XL Pipeline is in
14 the national interest.

15 On behalf of the state of Montana, I strongly
16 believe that the Keystone XL Pipeline Project is in
17 the nation's best interest for the following
18 reasons:

19 With respect to energy security, Canadian oil
20 flowing through the pipeline is conflict free oil.
21 Montana will never have to deploy National Guard
22 Troops to ensure the flow of oil from Canada to the
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1 United States.

2 Number two, the Keystone XL Pipeline will help
3 to increase domestic oil production by allowing oil
4 producers in Montana and North Dakota improve market
5 access and a better price for 65,000 barrels of oil
6 per day, at the planned Baker, Montana on-ramp.
7 Keystone XL represents a desperately needed 20
8 million dollar shot in the arm for the United States
9 economy. Over the life of the pipeline, this means
10 20,000 jobs, 118 person years of employment and 5
11 billion in property taxes or 60 million annually in
12 the state of Montana.

13 He also has attached his two letters to the
14 Secretary, and I will submit those. I also have
15 letters from the Yellowstone County Commissioners,
16 John Ostlund, Jim Reno and Bill Kennedy, in our
17 support. And I would just like to make just a
18 couple of comments.

19 In our letter to Secretary Clinton, we have
20 stated that this pipeline will increase the tax base
21 in the following six counties: Phillips, Valley,
22 McCone, Dawson, Prairie and Fallon. And also to

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1 build better infrastructure as well as funding our
2 schools, which this past legislative session, we
3 have talked about funding our schools.

4 The economic and national security benefits of
5 the pipeline are substantial, not to Yellowstone
6 County, but to the whole state of Montana. I
7 believe that strengthening our energy security and
8 our national security is essential to the future of
9 our country. I applaud the Department of State's
10 thoroughness through the approval process and
11 appreciate the multiple opportunities for the public
12 input on this project, and it's potential impact on
13 the environment.

14 I also have confidence that TransCanada will be
15 a good steward of the land and the Keystone XL will
16 be constructed using industry best practices and
17 will meet or exceed all existing pipeline regulatory
18 standards.

19 The Keystone Pipeline is clearly in the
20 nation's best interest and will be a valueable tool
21 in strengthening our national security and energy
22 security. Therefore, I respectfully request that

1 upon the completion of this review period, the
2 Department of State move expeditiously to approve
3 the pipeline and grant TransCanada the presidential
4 permit it needs to proceed. Sincerely, Bill
5 Kennedy, John Ostlund and Jim Reno, Commissioners of
6 Yellowstone County. Thank you.
7 (Applause.)

8 MR. STEELE: I'm going to begin calling
9 names by two's, so that we can use both podia here,
10 and maybe speed up the process a little bit and make
11 sure that more of you get a chance to speak.

12 The first person that I would like to call,
13 Matthew Rosendale, Mr. Matthew Rosendale, please.
14 The second person, Mr. Bruce MacIntyre, you can also
15 come up if you wish to the other podium. Please, go
16 ahead.

17 MR. ROSENDALE: For the record, my name is
18 Matthew Rosendale, and I am the Montana State
19 Representative from House District 38, which
20 includes Wibaux County and right here where we are
21 today, in Dawson County.

22 I appreciate the Department of State holding
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1 one of the meetings here in Glendive, as the
2 proposed line would travel through our county. I
3 feel certain that once the department is able to
4 separate the facts from the rhetoric in all the
5 testimony that you are certain to receive, you will
6 agree that this is not only a safe project, but a
7 much needed project as well.

8 So, what are the facts? Americans use
9 somewhere between 15 and 19 million barrels of oil a
10 day. We're expected to continue that rate of
11 consumption until the year 2035. Over 60 percent of
12 that is imported, most from folks that don't have
13 our best interest in mind. Right now, there are
14 over 170,000 miles of liquid pipelines located in
15 the United States, which carry more than 17 percent
16 of all domestic freight, in the safest, most
17 reliable and environmentally friendly method that we
18 have.

19 For this particular pipeline, TransCanada has
20 agreed to meet an additional 57 safety requirements,
21 making the Keystone XL the safest, most scrutinized
22 pipeline ever constructed in the United States.

1 The pipeline will be able to carry over 700,000
2 barrels of crude oil per day to refineries in the
3 United States. Up to 100,000 barrels a day of
4 domestic crude oil could be transported in the line
5 from Montana and North Dakota, as TransCanada has
6 agreed to construct an on-ramp in Baker, Montana.

7 This infrastructure is critical to the
8 development of our domestic resources, which are in
9 such an abundance throughout this area. Strangely
10 enough, if TransCanada were to simply truck this
11 material into the United States, they wouldn't
12 require this hearing. Instead, it would take 4,375
13 semi trucks, running 24 hours a day, 7 days a week,
14 365 days a year, to match the capacity of that
15 pipeline. I ask you, what impact would that have on
16 our environment, our roads? What additional risks
17 would our school buses and children be exposed to?
18 What inconveniences would travelers on our roads
19 experience?

20 I've heard some talk of possible and
21 hypothetical impacts to the Ogallala Aquifer if the
22 pipeline were to be damaged in Nebraska. Yet

1 studies clearly show that the eminent threat to the
2 aquifer comes from the pollution of the resource in
3 contamination from elevated levels of pesticides and
4 nitrates.

5 In closing, I would just like to say this
6 project is important to our state and the security
7 of our nation, and I encourage you to approve the
8 presidential permit as soon as possible. State
9 Senator, Don Stonbeisser, from Senate District 19,
10 has authorized me to add his support to this project
11 as well. Thank you.

12 (Applause.)

13 MR. MACINTYRE: Good afternoon, I'm Bruce
14 MacIntyre. I'm director of business advocacy for
15 the Billings Chamber of Commerce, CVB. We're an
16 organization with 1,151 members that represent some
17 44,823 employees of those businesses. We've got a
18 big interest in this, even though we're 200 miles
19 away. At 102,000 population, we will see a lot of
20 secondary effect on us. This is to put it simply, a
21 jobs opportunity for us that we can't let pass us
22 by. It is something that people will come to

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1 Billings for technical support, for training, for
2 materials and supplies.

3 We find that with the oil patch, the
4 headquarters for, regional headquarters for a lot of
5 these organizations is in Billings. So, we're very,
6 very closely connected to this. It's exceptionally
7 important as far as we're concerned.

8 The one thing I do want to mention that's been
9 on everybody's mind, and I'm sure you're going to
10 hear about it today, is the pipeline rupture at
11 Laurel, just upstream from Billings. The Exxon
12 Mobile Pipeline Company. One thousand barrels of
13 oil went into the river. We can't begin to say just
14 what wonderful partners Exxon Mobile is in this
15 process. I've talked to farmers, ranchers, business
16 people all up and down the river, who have met with
17 the people handling the claims. And they have all
18 expressed their great pleasure in how they were
19 handled.

20 There is an unfortunate situation that a 20
21 year old pipeline, for reasons that we have no idea
22 why at this point in time, ruptured. The new

1 pipeline that they are going to put in will be four
2 times deeper under the river. It will be about 70
3 feet under at the deepest point, and 30 under at the
4 shallowest point.

5 We learn from our mistakes. The pipeline that
6 Keystone XL is talking about putting in is probably
7 the most sophisticated that's ever been designed.
8 Technology moves ahead so fast that what was
9 appropriate 20 years ago, when that Silvertip
10 Pipeline was put in, is no longer in effect. We've
11 bypassed that.

12 We encourage you to pass on our support for
13 this, and we certainly hope that the EIS is
14 approved. Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 MR. STEELE: I'd like to call please, Mr.
17 Jeremy Vannatta, number four; and number five,
18 Senator Jim Keane.

19 MR. VANNATTA: Good afternoon, my name is
20 Jeremy Vannatta. I'm representing Big Sky Economic
21 Development for the Economic Organization for
22 Yellowstone County, here in Montana.

23

1 On behalf of Big Sky Economic Development, I
2 want to encourage and strongly support the Keystone
3 XL Pipeline Project. While the pipeline will not
4 run through Yellowstone County, we understand that
5 it has a greater impact beyond our county and fully
6 support the economic benefit for the rest of the
7 state of Montana.

8 Thousands of jobs will be created for our
9 nation at a time when our nation is starving for
10 private investment and job creation. And it means
11 jobs for Montanans right near the pipeline and those
12 in communities like Billings. Tax revenue for the
13 state will also increase. And it will stabilize our
14 country's petroleum at a critical time.

15 In Billings, we understand the oil industry.
16 They're great community partners. As my colleague
17 Bruce alluded to, we could not have asked for a
18 better partner in Exxon Mobile, understanding the
19 mistake they made and the responsibility they have
20 in cleaning it up. They are great community
21 partners, and with three refineries right around
22 Billings, we understand the impact they can have on

1 our community.

2 Approving the Keystone XL pipeline is the right
3 thing to do right now, and we strongly encourage it.
4 Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 SENATOR KEANE: Thank you Mr. Steele. My
7 name is Jim Keane. I represent Senate District 38
8 in Montana, in western Montana. Mr. Steele, some of
9 us are old enough, in the room, to remember the
10 1970's, when America promised we would never get in
11 the same shape again. And a few months later, we
12 forgot that promise, and we forgot that promise up
13 until now. What's happened now is we need to
14 reinvigorate that promise where we get away from the
15 oil we are.

16 What we actually pay, everybody, whether you're
17 an opponent or a proponent to this, who drove here
18 or flew here, diesel is four dollars a gallon; gas
19 is 3.60 plus, north of 3.60. We don't pay that in
20 America. We're paying 7.50 to 8.00 dollars a
21 gallon. That's not Jim Keane speaking. That's a
22 strategic study by the Pentagon of what the actual
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1 price of fuel is to Americans. And I would like to
2 make a reference to that, for this committee to take
3 a look at that strategic study done by the Pentagon,
4 what American's actually pay for oil. We're all
5 paying the price because the government has to
6 defend this oil in order for it to be delivered. We
7 don't have to defend the oil coming out of Canada.
8 We don't have to do that. It's a benefit to us, and
9 it cuts back our dependance on foreign oil.

10 One of the other things, so what's a copper
11 miner from Butte doing over here, talking about oil?
12 They are identical. The Keystone Pipeline and
13 copper are identical. Butte, Montana sustained this
14 country and this state through two world wars at
15 great benefits, and without that, who knows where we
16 would be?

17 Copper provides the transmission for
18 electricity, one of our primary energy sources. The
19 XL Pipeline is transmission for our other energy
20 source. They are identical, and to ignore that fact
21 is at our own peril. We need to recognize that,
22 that's what we need to do. Build this pipeline.

23

1 And I'd just like to make a comment to the people
2 who aren't speaking over here.

3 People here are sitting here because they want
4 to go back to work. They want to do something for
5 this country. They want to put food and bread on
6 the table without worry. They want decent jobs, and
7 this pipeline can provide that. These people may
8 not speak, but every one of them wants to go back to
9 work and help out in whatever way they can.

10 I'd appreciate your taking those to Ms.
11 Clinton, and I appreciate the comments taken into
12 serious effect, and put America back to work and the
13 people here in Montana. And let's build our energy
14 future and not go back to what we did in the 1970's.
15 Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. STEELE: I'd like to call next
18 please, Janet Wolff and Mr. Burt Gigoux.
19 Undoubtedly pronounced that incorrectly, for which,
20 I apologize. And just a note to the wider crowd. I
21 appreciate your appreciation for the remarks of our
22 commenters. But the applause does take a little bit
23

1 more time out of the overall proceedings.

2 But as with other speakers, would appreciate
3 if you would state your name for the record, and
4 also your affiliation. Thank you very much.

5 MS. WOLFF: For the record, my name is
6 Janet Wolff. I am a Commissioner of McCone County,
7 Montana and a landowner, owning three sections of
8 land where the proposed pipeline will cross.

9 I am here to support the Department of State's
10 approval of the Keystone XL Pipeline Project
11 granting TransCanada the presidential permit
12 necessary to begin building the pipeline.

13 The proposed pipeline will cross McCone County
14 diagonally, from the northwest corner to the
15 southeast corner of the county, covering
16 approximately 70 miles of the total 282 miles in
17 Montana.

18 As a County Commissioner, our concerns so far
19 have dealt mainly with the use of our county roads.
20 The TransCanada representatives have dealt with us
21 very fairly and to our satisfaction and have been
22 very willing to meet any and all of our demands.

23

1 A man camp has been proposed to be built near
2 Circle, the county seat of McCone County, with 600
3 to 700 people living there for approximately one and
4 a half years. This will have a significant impact
5 on the town of Circle and McCone County by nearly
6 doubling the population of Circle. We have been
7 assured that the impacts that this brings will be
8 dealt with by TransCanada, and that they will help
9 with any and all concerns or issues that arise.

10 The majority of the people in our county are in
11 support of the pipeline. My husband and I own three
12 sections of land where the pipeline is proposed to
13 cross. We have signed the easements for these areas
14 and have received a very fair payment for these
15 easements and damages for the first year. We will
16 be paid for any and all crop and pasture damages
17 that the pipeline may incur for two years following
18 the construction. We also have a permanent
19 electrical transmission line that crosses some of
20 our property, which requires farming around the
21 towers. After the pipeline is completed, we will be
22 able to resume our regular activities of farming and
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1 ranching with little or no disturbance and have been
2 and will be compensated for the disturbance during
3 and following the pipeline construction. The
4 representatives from TransCanada have treated us
5 with a great deal of respect and have met all of our
6 requests in our agreement with TransCanada.

7 There has been a great deal of concern about
8 leaks in the pipeline. TransCanada does not want a
9 leak in the pipeline, as their sole purpose for this
10 pipeline is to transport oil from Canada, Montana,
11 North Dakota, South Dakota and Oklahoma to our
12 refineries in Texas. Therefore, they will make
13 every effort to do just that.

14 Our country is reliant on oil for the energy
15 and the many products that it provides. Until that
16 changes, we must address the supply of this oil. We
17 can not and should not rely on unreliable,
18 unfriendly sources that we are presently doing.
19 This valuable energy infrastructure project provides
20 substantial national security and economic benefits.
21 By supporting the domestic production and importing
22 oil from Canada, national and energy security will
23

1 be improved. A long, stable energy supply will be
2 provided. Jobs will be created, and economic growth
3 will be encouraged.

4 Not only is this Keystone XL Pipeline Project
5 in the best interest of our nation, it is also in
6 the best interest of our state and our counties.
7 With the increase of taxes that TransCanada will
8 pay, we foresee the capability to improve our roads
9 and infrastructure, increase school funding and
10 lessen the tax burden on our county's taxpayers.

11 The Department of State has been very thorough
12 during the approval process, and I appreciate the
13 many opportunities for public input on the project
14 and its potential impact on the environment.

15 As a County Commissioner, and I speak for all
16 three of us, and a landowner who owns property where
17 the pipeline will cross, I believe that construction
18 of the Keystone XL Pipeline is clearly in the best
19 interest of all Americans, and I respectfully
20 request that the Department of State approve the
21 project and grant TransCanada the presidential
22 permit necessary to bring, to begin the building of

1 the pipeline. Thank you for the opportunity to
2 comment.

3 (Applause.)

4 MR. GIGOUX: My name is Burt Gigoux. I'm
5 a Marine Corps veteran. I'm a member of the Marine
6 Corps League, the American Legion, the United
7 Veteran's Council, and I'm also the chairman of
8 Yellowstone County Veteran's Cemetery Board.

9 My formative years were after World War II in
10 the 1950's, when our country was strong, and we were
11 rebuilding the world. Patriotism was taught in
12 schools, and we were proud to be Americans. We
13 could accomplish anything we set our minds to. We
14 went to the moon in 1969.

15 OPEC was founded in 1965. Those countries
16 nationalized their oil fields and created a price
17 fixing cartel. OPEC initiated the oil crisis in
18 1973, which triggered a period of inflation. They
19 used their oil weapon, which they will use again.

20 In 1966, I joined the Marine Corps and lived up
21 to the patriotism that I learned as a child. I had
22 some skin in the game. Many of my counterparts went
23

1 to school and many adopted one radical cause or
2 another, including the hard core environmentalists.

3 In 1979, I started a communications company.
4 My main customers were the oil service companies,
5 drillers, had some major oil companies. These
6 companies were going to help us become energy
7 independent and Arabs could eat their oil. I
8 traveled all over the western United States. A lot
9 of areas were explored, were never brought into
10 production. What stopped some of this development
11 was the price of oil. As you recall, OPEC dropped
12 their prices to slow down this rebellion.

13 During my years, I have watched my great nation
14 sink into decline, fight wars protecting our
15 interests in the Middle East, and attend funerals of
16 my fellow Marines, that died in this last war. I'm
17 a bugler. I played taps over these young warriors
18 in their coffins.

19 I have watched the greatest transfer of wealth
20 in the history of the world, and now the loss of our
21 industries and jobs, mainly due to the price of
22 energy and some foolish environmental regulations.

23

1 The EPA now even wants to regulate dust.

2 We now have a small percentage of our
3 population utilizing the courts and our regulations
4 that were put in place to reasonably protect our
5 environment. They are using them to stop anything
6 that could help our economy or return our country to
7 greatness. I regard their actions as fraud, if not
8 treason. I know the radical opposition to the XL
9 Pipeline is to slow down or stop the use of fossil
10 fuels.

11 The world will turn to an alternative energy
12 source when it is available and affordable. But
13 until that day, we are a fossil fuel dependant
14 nation.

15 The point I would like to make is I believe the
16 transportation of Canadian oil and the oil from the
17 Bakken Formation is critical to the security of our
18 nation. I would rather have us buy oil from a
19 friend than depend on our enemies and on unstable
20 governments.

21 As far as the radical environmentalists, may
22 they freeze to death in the dark.

23

1 (Applause.)

2 MR. STEELE: Next, I'd like to call
3 numbers 9 and 10, Mayor Smelser, please and Mr. Todd
4 Devlin. And if 11 and 12 wish to prepare, Mr. Gary
5 Macdonald and Mr. Don Rieger are 11 and 12.

6 MAYOR SMELSER: Mr. Steele, ladies and
7 gentlemen, my name is Bret Smelser. I'm mayor of
8 Sidney, Montana, Glendive's sister city. And I am
9 also co-chair of the MonDak Energy Alliance, which
10 sole purpose is to develop and diversify renewable
11 and traditional resources.

12 I speak in support of this project. I think
13 most of what I've wanted to say has been said. Our
14 country needs independence; it needs energy
15 independence. If we speak in raw figures, if we
16 import 10 million barrels a day of oil and Canada
17 offers us 15, 20 percent, I think we would be
18 foolish not to take it. Our country needs the
19 energy. Our country needs the jobs. These counties
20 need the revenue base, and our state could use the
21 revenue base.

22 There's a lot of talk about going green and
23

1 that we need to have green energy. And of course,
2 we're all working to that end, but that end isn't
3 here. Today, TransCanada offers us oil that we
4 don't have to worry about and that is available, and
5 I think it is in our best interest to take them up
6 on it. And I urge support of this, and I urge
7 passage of this. God bless and thank you very much.

8 (Applause.)

9 MR. DEVLIN: Thank you, Mr. Steele. My
10 name is Todd Devlin, D-E-V-L-I-N, Prairie County
11 Commissioner, Montana.

12 For oil supply, you need to have compatible
13 regulation that will allow development and still
14 address environmental concerns. That was the intent
15 of the National Environmental Policy Act. NEPA was
16 designed to manage our resources for the benefit of
17 mankind, for man. It's intent was not to reserve.

18 Because of time, Prairie County addressed 18
19 concerns, and because of time, I will address 8.
20 And then, if I could hand in my written testimony to
21 you guys, is that where I hand it?

22 MR. STEELE: Yes, sir.

23

1 MR. DEVLIN: Concern number three were the
2 leaks on the Keystone 1 in North Dakota. The
3 largest leak was less than 400 gallons, about nine
4 barrels of oil. The other 13 were sensor inserted
5 failure due to vibration. The leaks were less than
6 10 gallons each. The total oil spill, on the
7 Keystone 1 of all 14, was less than 13 barrels of
8 oil. Cause of the leaks was due to vibration caused
9 by flow reduction, using valves.

10 The Keystone 1 does not have variable speed
11 pumps and valves and has to use valves to reduce the
12 flow. However, the Keystone XL has variable speed
13 pumps, which can be reduced down, and you wouldn't
14 get that vibration.

15 Is thickness of the pipeline an issue? Prairie
16 County is not an expert on pipe recommendations for
17 Keystone XL Project, however, the Department of
18 State, DEQ and the American Petroleum Institute all
19 conclude that the pipe used will meet or exceed
20 industry standards of safety.

21 There's been a lot of concern in our
22 constituents about haul agreements. Our Prairie

23

1 County Attorney, Beckley Convery (phonetic) was the
2 lead attorney for representation of the Montana
3 counties on developing a haul road agreement.
4 Prairie County has reviewed the haul agreements and
5 are satisfied that the agreement protects the county
6 for additional impacts due to damage of roads used
7 by TransCanada.

8 Liability of the landowner. TransCanada is
9 liable for the pipeline. All clean up, damage, if
10 that happened, which I don't think will. Hopefully,
11 it won't. All clean up and damage is the total
12 responsibility of TransCanada. However, if
13 TransCanada can show in a court of law that the
14 landowner caused the damage and was negligent in his
15 or her actions, then by negligence, the landowner
16 may be responsible for some or all of the costs. I
17 mean, absolutely. We recommend, from Prairie
18 County, we strongly recommend that the landowners do
19 not work or disturb within the final and permanent
20 easement without written approval from TransCanada.

21 Tax base. Due to the federal holdings, 429,000
22 acres out of a million, we have, really, no

1 expansion tax base. This would increase our tax
2 base by 300 percent. Prairie County's position on
3 the construction of the Keystone XL, Prairie County
4 supports construction of the Keystone. Prairie
5 County will assist local landowners in negotiations
6 if requested. We fully expect fair and equitable
7 treatment of landowners by TransCanada within our
8 jurisdictional boundaries.

9 To put it simply, this is jobs. It is
10 security, and it is taxes. Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 MR. STEELE: Mr. MacDonald please, and
13 then Mr. Rieger.

14 MR. MACDONALD: Thank you, Mr. Steele, for
15 the opportunity to speak. For the record, my name
16 is Gary MacDonald. I'm the chairman of the
17 Roosevelt County Commissioners, and I do speak for
18 all three of us. And I guess we're here, even
19 though the pipeline does not enter Roosevelt County,
20 we're here in full support for this project because
21 of the jobs it creates.

22 We have a Canadian pipeline that runs all the
23

1 way across our county, from the east to the west.

2 And I'm here to tell you that they are good

3 neighbors. We truly enjoy them. In fact, they are

4 so good that we actually forget they're there, until

5 we look at the revenue when we are doing out

6 budgets. They bring in a lot of money to the

7 county. This pipeline will bring a lot of money

8 into the rest of the state of Montana and the United

9 States. We ask you to please support it. Thank

10 you.

11 (Applause.)

12 MR. RIEGER: For the record, my name is

13 Donny Rieger. I happen to be a County Commissioner

14 from the County of Fallon, Baker, Montana. And as a

15 Commissioner, we are fortunate enough to anticipate

16 67 miles of the pipeline running through the county.

17 Additionally, to the additional mileage of the

18 pipeline, we also are at stake to receive one

19 pumping station as well as the Bakken Market Link.

20 And from the market link that will be proposed for

21 Baker, will be significant to the industry and to

22 the nation in the sense that the oil that's been

23

1 produced out of the Bakken in the previous years,
2 also what is produced in our area, they are taking a
3 discounted price because they don't have the ability
4 to move that oil to refineries.

5 Having this pipeline in place will give great
6 ability to get a bigger price or larger price. They
7 won't have to take the discount, simply because they
8 have additional means of transporting the oil.

9 Currently, they had a proposed line coming in
10 from the Bakken that was supposed to come in to the
11 market link, and of course with the delay of action,
12 that was terminated at Fryburg, North Dakota. And
13 at that point, they put in a rail loading station
14 for that facility there.

15 I think in the future if this is built, the
16 availability of the market ramp, I think we'll see a
17 significant amount of additional pipelines. It
18 isn't only the Bakken, there's other formations
19 that's being discovered. And that will give a real
20 opportunity to transport this oil out of the fields.

21 We urge you to issue the permit. Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23

1 MR. STEELE: I'd like to call number 13
2 please, Mr. Richard Dunbar, number 14, Mr. Doug
3 Buxbaum, and number 16 please, Mr. Frank DePriest.

4 MR. DUNBAR: My name is Richard Dunbar.
5 I'm a Phillips County Commissioner, and I'm also the
6 president of the Oil, Gas and Coal Counties in
7 Montana, representing 34 counties.

8 Monday afternoon the Oil, Gas and Coal Counties
9 held their fall meeting, and the membership approved
10 and passed, unanimously, a resolution in support of
11 the Keystone Project. And when I get done speaking,
12 I'll hand that resolution in for the record.

13 This morning MAOGCs annual fall convention is
14 going on. The Energy Committee, Public Plans
15 Committee, and the Economic Development Committee
16 all looked at this resolution and they voted
17 unanimously in support of this project also.

18 With 24 miles of pipeline and 1 pump station,
19 Phillips County is in full support of the Keystone
20 Pipeline. Mr. Steele, on behalf of the Montana
21 Association of Oil, Gas and Coal Counties, we write
22 in support of the TransCanada Keystone XL Crude Oil

23

1 Pipeline Project and urge the department to grant a
2 permit for the pipeline. Our association is made up
3 of County Commissioners from 34 oil, gas and coal
4 producing counties from across the state.

5 The Keystone XL pipeline will cross six of
6 these counties, and all have hundreds of miles of
7 pipelines already buried underground. Pipelines are
8 the safest, most reliable, economical,
9 environmentally favorable way to transport oil and
10 petroleum products, as well as other energy liquids
11 throughout Montana and the U.S.

12 Montana County Commissioners take their jobs
13 and responsibilities very seriously. We are the
14 local elected officials that work for the citizens
15 of Montana, where the rubber meets the road.
16 TransCanada officials and representatives have been
17 very responsive to all our concerns and have pledged
18 to work closely with county officials throughout the
19 project.

20 This project is a vital link to secure energy
21 supplies for the United States. According to the
22 U.S. Energy Information Administration, oil and

1 natural gas will continue to supply over 50 percent
2 of the U.S. energy needs into 2030.

3 Canada is a valued trading partner and our most
4 reliable supplier of foreign based crude oil. The
5 Keystone Project will have the added benefit of the
6 on-ramp for the growing domestic supplies of crude
7 oil being produced from the Bakken and the Sanish
8 Three Forks Formations in Montana and North Dakota.

9 This project also stands to provide powerful
10 private sector economic stimulus. Marrying
11 construction, the Keystone will create more than
12 13,000 jobs funded with private investment and in
13 addition, local governments will have a steady
14 source of income from economic activity associated
15 with construction and from property taxes the
16 pipeline company will pay. Securing stable and
17 affordable energy for our North American allies
18 through projects such as the Keystone Pipeline is in
19 the national interest. Considering the economical
20 and energy security benefits of these vital
21 resources, we should continue to expand America's
22 access to safe, affordable energy to help ensure
23

1 improved domestic and global energy security and
2 stable prices for consumers.

3 Rejection of the permit or further delays will
4 sacrifice the sufficient economic benefits this
5 project stands to deliver and force U.S. customers
6 to rely on other sources of crude oil not
7 economically and politically allied with U.S.
8 interests. This would be a mistake.

9 We urge the granting of this permit. Thank
10 you.

11 (Applause.)

12 MR. BUXBAUM: For the record, my name is
13 Doug Buxbaum. I'm Chairman of the Dawson County
14 Commissioners. I would like to express the office
15 of the Dawson County Commissioners support for the
16 Keystone XL Pipeline's Project to construct a
17 pipeline to transport oil to the refineries along
18 the Texas Gulf Coast.

19 We believe the pipeline will increase our
20 county's tax base, assist in funding of our schools,
21 and be in the best interest of the county. Other
22 benefits associated with this project will be a more

23

1 stable supply of energy and reduce our dependence on
2 foreign oil. It will create economic growth, not
3 only for our country, but also for other Montana
4 counties in the state of Montana, as well as other
5 states along the proposed pipeline. It will provide
6 more employment opportunities, increase personal
7 income and state revenue.

8 Issues that we have received in opposition of
9 this project are mainly with landowners' specific
10 issues. We have advocated that all their concerns
11 and questions be addressed. The county is concerned
12 about the increase in traffic on our county roads
13 and the resulting damages incurred. Our office,
14 along with the county attorney, will be negotiating
15 a haul agreement with Keystone to address the road
16 issue. Keystone has assured us that they are in
17 favor of this and also have a joint agreement that
18 will address a good communication system throughout
19 the period of construction. Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 MR. STEELE: Mr. DePriest, please? Also
22 if I can call Ms. Kari Hammond, please, and Ms.

23

1 Jeanne Barnard. Please be ready to come down.

2 MR. DEPRIEST: For the record, my name is
3 Frank DePriest, Commissioner of Blaine County.
4 Blaine County is also a member of the Montana
5 Association of Oil, Gas and Coal Counties. We are a
6 county that is adjacent to Phillips County, which is
7 a pipeline crossing county.

8 I have a letter of support addressed to
9 Secretary Clinton. "The Keystone XL Pipeline lies
10 to the east of us, commencing through Phillips
11 County from Saskatchewan to the Gulf of Mexico. It
12 will not affect our tax base, but we, as Blaine
13 County Commissioners, lend our support to this
14 project. In addition to the tax base increases for
15 the affected counties and entities, the countless
16 direct and indirect jobs created in the process of
17 building this pipeline are in, with what we heard
18 from our president, about reconciling our
19 differences and compromising for the good of the
20 nation.

21 We feel that the environmental and cultural
22 differences have been duly noted and will be adhered
23

1 to. Canada is our Ally. They are moving forward.
2 We applaud the thoroughness of the State Department
3 in meeting the nation's obligations to meeting the
4 environmental concerns. We too have checked on the
5 pipeline. It is our understanding that the pipeline
6 is laid, generally, six feet or more underground.
7 If there are cultural sites found, digging is
8 stopped and appropriate measures are in place for
9 the removal of artifacts and bodily remains. These
10 are accomplished with dignity and integrity.

11 It is clear that TransCanada will be a good
12 steward of the land. Jobs will be created. Tax
13 bases will be improved. This is in line with
14 America's desire to have jobs generated in the
15 private sector. We are in agreement to move
16 forward. Vic Miller, Delores Plumage, Frank
17 DePriest, Commissioners of Blaine County." Thank
18 you.

19 (Applause.)

20 MS. HAMMOND: Thank you, my name is Kari
21 Hammond. I am the office manager for Big Flat
22 Electric in Malta, Montana. And I am reading a

23

1 statement prepared by Betty Campbell, a Board of
2 Director for Big Flat Electric.

3 "I apologize that I could not be here in
4 person, but I thank Kari for presenting my testimony
5 at this hearing. My name is Betty Campbell. I was
6 born on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation and live
7 there today. I believe in the strength of the
8 United States and that it is necessary to have our
9 oil delivered by Canada to reduce our dependency on
10 the Middle East.

11 I was in education for 35 years, 20 years as a
12 teacher and the last 15 as District Elementary
13 President of the Hayes Lodgepole School System.

14 All Americans need to take this opportunity to
15 tell the Obama Administration we want jobs, economic
16 stimulation, and we want to secure our energy future
17 with new supplies of U.S. and Canadian oil.

18 My husband, Bud, now deceased, was a proud
19 American. He fought in World War II. He was
20 captured in 1942 on the Bataan Peninsula and
21 survived the Death March. For the next three and a
22 half years, he was a prisoner of war in a Japanese
23

1 prisoner war camp.

2 This project is good for America and the
3 America Bud fought for. For the good of our
4 country, please approve the Keystone XL Pipeline
5 project. Sincerely, Betty Campbell."

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. STEELE: And may I also call please,
8 Mr. Tom Wilson and Mr. Jerry Ball.

9 MS. BARNARD: Thank you, and welcome to
10 beautiful Northeast Montana. My name is Jeanne
11 Barnard. I'm general manager of Big Flat Electric
12 Cooperative, also located in Northeast Montana. And
13 Big Flat Electric will serve Pump Site Number 9 as
14 TransCanada enters into the country.

15 The Keystone XL Pipeline should be granted its
16 presidential permit as a matter of national security
17 and the general welfare of the United States for the
18 following reasons:

19 Keystone will provide the United States an
20 avenue of oil without the fear of war. We would be
21 receiving oil from a friendly neighbor instead of a
22 violent, unstable Middle East, full of mistrust.

23

1 Keystone will help the United States feed itself and
2 the world. A correlation seldom made is between gas
3 and oil to the production of food. Although today,
4 we have fewer farms and ranches, the areas are
5 larger and the equipment bigger. And it all runs on
6 gas and diesel. The horsepower needed will not run
7 on anything else.

8 Keystone XL is capable of delivering 25 percent
9 of it's capacity, or almost 100 million barrels of
10 oil per day. If we do not build this pipeline and
11 oil is cut off by turmoil in the Middle East, our
12 nation and the other countries we feed could starve.

13 The President is advocating jobs to stimulate
14 the economy. Keystone will provide an immediate
15 influx of 20,000 American jobs for the pipeline and
16 118,000 jobs for ancillary services. The pipe is
17 manufactured in the United States, providing
18 additional jobs with an unusual tag these days,
19 "Made in America." If you really want to stimulate
20 this economy, provide affordable energy and the jobs
21 will follow.

22 Successive regulatory reviews and assessments

23

1 have repeatedly affirmed Keystone XL dedication to
2 exceed the industry standards and provide this with
3 no significant negative impacts.

4 Keystone XL will also have a positive impact to
5 Northeast Montana with tax revenue. In addition,
6 many of these areas are served by rural electric
7 cooperatives along the route. Keystone XL requires
8 a total of 33 pump sites in the United States.
9 Twenty-seven are served by cooperatives or public
10 power districts. The stability that comes with a
11 large load allows low density cooperative members to
12 share the high cost of maintaining their systems
13 with another entity. Four cooperatives out of the
14 six pump sites in Montana serve Indian reservations.
15 Keystone will help stabilize rates to those American
16 Indians and provide benefits to the tribe,
17 regardless of their proximity to the pipeline.

18 Please approve the permit. Thank you.

19 (Applause.)

20 MR. WILSON: Hello, my name is Tom Wilson.
21 I'm from Buffalo, South Dakota. I'm a land owner
22 just across the border. I am affiliated also with
23

1 TD Services. I have a proposed man camp on my
2 property, and TransCanada's personnel have been
3 nothing but courteous and gracious to work with.

4 I also have had two sons who were in
5 Afghanistan, helping protect that area. I don't
6 want to see that happen again. They're home, and I
7 want them to stay home. I don't want them to have
8 to go over into that oil country.

9 We need jobs to bring us out of this financial
10 problem the country is in. In 2009, we had a
11 stimulus package that brought about 1.8 million
12 jobs. This cost each and every one of us 575,000
13 dollars per job. That's our money. Now in 2011, we
14 have another stimulus package. Our money, they're
15 talking about spending. Why can't we go with the
16 seven billion dollar private stimulus package that's
17 going to promote jobs, give long term jobs as well
18 as short term jobs in Montana, South Dakota?

19 It will also stabilize our electric rates. My
20 rates are going to stabilize in Buffalo for years to
21 come. It also is allowing for looping of the
22 electric transmission lines.

1 We talk about green energy, wind power and the
2 such. The biggest problem in this area is the
3 transmission lines are full. You loop the
4 transmission lines that are coming in, now we have
5 the ability to send wind energy out. That is a
6 tremendous green move for this project. This
7 eliminates the major obstacles.

8 Also approximately 65,000 barrels of Bakken oil
9 will go down the pipeline a day. This will help
10 make the oilfield increase. Now, with 240 drilling
11 rigs in North Dakota alone, that equals eight new
12 wells a day coming on production.

13 I just have one question in closing. Why are
14 we fighting this pipeline? We ought to be asking
15 them to put in another one. Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. BALL: For the record, my name is
18 Jerry Ball. I'm an organizer for LIUNA Northwest
19 Region. First, I'd like to thank you, Mr. Steele,
20 and also U.S. State Department for conducting these
21 hearings on the Keystone Pipeline. I would also
22 like to thank my proud brothers and sisters dressed

23

1 in orange over there, Lineman's Local 1686. I'd
2 also like to thank the Operating Engineers Local
3 400, Teamsters Local 2 and the UA Pipetrades. My
4 territory includes nine states, four provinces and
5 two territories. I have the privilege of serving
6 43,000 union members from both the U.S. and Canada.

7 I am also a fourth generation Montanan and have
8 Canadian citizenship through my mother. Our
9 members, in both countries, need this job that the
10 Keystone Pipeline will produce. In Montana, the
11 Keystone Pipeline will create 500 to 600 laborers'
12 jobs alone. Their wages will be plowed back into
13 local economies, which will sustain thousands of
14 other jobs.

15 An estimated 420 million will be generated into
16 Montana's economy, and 285 million of that will go
17 directly into Montana working families' wallets.
18 Montana laborers have had a strong tradition of
19 building safe and environmentally sound pipelines.
20 The Keystone Pipeline can add to that proud
21 tradition by teaching the next generation how to
22 produce a safe and environmentally sound pipeline.

23

1 Two weeks ago, I was in Fort McMurray at the
2 oil sands and seeing the economic boom that it has
3 created. According to Canadian officials, through
4 the advancement of technology, they have cut per
5 barrel greenhouse gas emissions from the old oil
6 sands production by 29 percent, compared to 1990
7 levels.

8 The local newspaper, the Glendive Ranger, said,
9 "Montana, an increased investment in Canadian oil
10 sands development could create more than 21,000 jobs
11 by 2035. These jobs are needed in Montana, and the
12 laborers can provide a safe environment for all of
13 the public."

14 Montana laborers live, work and play in this
15 great state and are not interested in passing on a
16 place where you can't live, work or play. The
17 reality is the oil sands won't be shut down and will
18 continue to produce oil for the U.S., China or
19 whoever. We want to deal with climate change and
20 expand the use of renewable energies, but we still
21 need oil from nations that we can trust.

22 And the most important thing is we need jobs.

23

1 Thank you very much for your time.

2 (Applause.)

3 MR. STEELE: I would like to call please
4 Number 21, Mr. Dan Johnson, and Number 22, Mr.
5 Wesley James. Following them, Mr. Troy Stugelmeyer,
6 and Irene Moffett.

7 MR. JOHNSON: Hello, for the record my
8 name is Dan Johnson. I come from a small community,
9 a rural community, in Northwestern South Dakota.
10 And our community is mostly ag oriented. Our
11 economy is subsidized by the federal government.
12 They worked long and hard to make sure it stays that
13 way; now they're broke.

14 Our economy is going to dwindle just like
15 theirs is, and I think we can bring wind power in
16 all you want, but you can't plow a field with a
17 windmill. And we need domestic oil. We need oil
18 from friendly countries, and I think that this
19 pipeline would be a wonderful thing for our
20 community.

21 This pipeline goes diagonally across our
22 county. The tax revenues alone will give us

23

1 independence for the state and local government.
2 They subsidize our schools. This I feel will give
3 us a certain amount of independence. It will give
4 us jobs that will be more diversified. We'll have
5 long lasting jobs. It's a short term, but there's
6 also a long term side to this. And most of all, I
7 feel it will give us a certain amount of
8 independence from our federal regulations that have
9 stifled so much of our work in this country, and I
10 just feel this will be a good thing for everyone.
11 And thank you for your time.

12 (Applause.)

13 MR. JAMES: Hi, my name is Wes James. The
14 pipeline crosses our family farm about three miles
15 east of Circle. My concern is where the pipeline
16 crosses the Redwater River on our property. The
17 normal operating pressure in the pipeline at the
18 Redwater crossing site is relatively low, about 300
19 PSI. However, if the pipeline operator would close
20 a downstream valve at the Circle Pumping Plant and
21 leave the pumps operating at the Fort Peck Pumping
22 Plant, the pressure in the pipeline would increase

23

1 to 1,700 PSI, and the maximum stress in the steel
2 pipe would increase to, would be 73,000 PSI.

3 This is greater than the yield stress of the
4 pipe of 70,000 PSI, but less than the rupture stress
5 of 80,000. The pipeline would not rupture.

6 After the pipeline has been in operation for
7 several years, there could be internal or external
8 corrosion. As little as 1/16th of an inch of
9 corrosion could cause the pipeline to rupture.

10 TransCanada is planning to increase capacity of
11 the pipeline from 700,000 barrels per day to 830,000
12 barrels per day some time in the future. My concern
13 is that they can only do this if they operate the
14 pipeline at a much higher pressure, and the pipeline
15 can not be safely operated at a higher pressure.

16 TransCanada has agreed to design the pipeline
17 using the industry standard factor of 0.72 times the
18 yield stress. In order to assure that the pipeline
19 will not fail during the pressure surges during
20 operation, the pipeline will be hydrostatically
21 tested to 1.25 times the maximum operating pressure
22 or 1,635 PSI.

23

1 It appears to me that TransCanada is planning
2 to design and test the Keystone Pipeline using the
3 0.72 design criteria, but operate the pipeline
4 according to the 0.8 design criteria, which is the
5 thin wall pipe design, in order to avoid having to
6 hydraulically test the Keystone XL Pipeline at 1,800
7 PSI pressure, which they know it will fail.

8 The minimum wall thickness allowed in the
9 pipeline is 90 percent of the nominal wall
10 thickness. The difference between the two design
11 criteria is that the 0.72 design is based upon the
12 minimum wall thickness, while the 0.8 design is
13 based upon the average wall thickness. So, if a
14 pipeline fails, it will fail where the wall
15 thickness is the smallest.

16 We know that a pipeline with a capacity of
17 830,000 barrels per day will generate more revenues
18 than a pipeline with 700,000 barrels per day. If
19 TransCanada wants to build and operate a pipeline in
20 Montana, they should build it and operate it as a
21 safe pipeline, using the design factor of 0.72

22 I would not oppose the building of this
23

1 pipeline, as long as TransCanada does not plan to
2 operate the pipeline at a pressure greater than that
3 allowed by the 0.72 design criteria. Thank you.

4 (Applause.)

5 MR. STUGELMEYER: Good afternoon, for the
6 record my name is Charlie Stugelmeyer, from Buffalo
7 South Dakota. The Keystone XL Project will go
8 through 65 miles of Harding County, South Dakota.
9 My family lives there; my kids live there. I think
10 this is a welcome project. Our county and our
11 school district need the tax revenue from this
12 project.

13 On the other hand, we have an extensive,
14 extensive exploration going on in North Dakota and
15 in Eastern Montana and in Northwestern South Dakota.
16 This project will bring market stability for all of
17 the products that they are producing. I previously
18 was employed in the oil industry in the '80s. When
19 that crashed, I watched family and friends go broke,
20 sell off their properties and move away. This will
21 bring the stability we need. I urge that you
22 approve this project and sign the permit please.

23

1 Thank you.

2 (Applause.)

3 MS. MOFFETT: I'm Irene Moffett, Fallon
4 Montana. I am a land owner that's very concerned
5 about the way we've been treated by TransCanada. I
6 know you've heard the very glowing stories from
7 people that are in positions of power to support
8 them. I'm speaking from the ordinary land owner
9 perspective.

10 I came to the very first meeting that
11 TransCanada had here in Glendive at the Epic, where
12 they were going to show where their line was going
13 to go over the local landowners.

14 One of the very first things they told us that
15 afternoon when they got up to talk to us was that
16 they had eminent domain. Well, we know that they
17 don't have eminent domain until the Montana State,
18 to get the permit from the state of Montana. But
19 that isn't what they told us. Then the very first
20 contract that they offered to any of our neighbors
21 was one of the most horrible contracts you ever
22 seen. The contract was one dollar per running foot,
23

1 ease min for a 50 foot permanent easement, 110 foot
2 temporary easement. And in the contract it said,
3 "We will make one payment and one payment only."

4 Also in this contract, it said that, "When the
5 pipeline is in, we have no more liability." Now,
6 very few people in our area signed this, most of us
7 haven't. We are still waiting for a better offer.

8 I was wondering, with the big amount of oil
9 that has been discovered in Montana and in North
10 Dakota, where they say by 2015, they figure these
11 wells here will be pumping a million gallons a day.
12 Where they found a tremendous oil field, shale oil
13 field in Southeastern Wyoming, and if you listen to
14 the radio and TV, they have found another tremendous
15 oil field, shale oil field in Texas. What about
16 putting our own oil to work?

17 Now, everybody here says that this oil is going
18 to go from Canada into our refineries, and we are
19 going to have this oil. Well, I read all of the
20 EISs, and the one thing I found out in the EIS, it
21 says that when they oil hits Pad 3 in Louisiana and
22 in Texas, the United States Government has no

1 control over where it goes from there. So, are you
2 all so sure that this oil is going to benefit us?
3 How about the fact that they plan on making 90
4 percent very good quality diesel, that they are
5 paying much higher for in Europe and in South
6 America?

7 Now, if this oil was going to be going through
8 this country, going to our refineries and were going
9 to be used by U.S. citizens, well, there is no
10 guarantee because it says in the EIS that the
11 government has no control. As it says to us, that
12 anybody, that they take care of the federal lands
13 that their pipeline cross, the state takes care of
14 the easements for the state lands. But each
15 individual land owner has to deal with them
16 themselves.

17 As they said in the very first meeting that
18 they came to, we can pay each and everyone what we
19 want. We don't have to pay you all the same. And
20 that was very apparent in what they offered.

21 Unless I have proof that this oil is going to
22 be used in the United States, I think unless we have
23

1 that proof, we should not approve this. Thank you.

2 (Applause.)

3 MR. STEELE: We have Mr. Darwin Latham and
4 then Mr. Ed Stauber, Mr. Bob Vander Valk and Ms.
5 Margaret Kidder, please.

6 MR. LATHAM: My name is Darwin Latham, and
7 I'm a ranch down by Camp Creek South Dakota, just
8 across the border here. And I am a partner in a
9 small business. And this pipeline is going to go
10 diagonally through our county, and I just think that
11 this pipeline is in the national interest. On a
12 local level, we're going to have two pump stations
13 in our county that will double our tax base.
14 There's really nothing else on the horizon that
15 could possibly do that. It's going to double our
16 tax base. What this is going to allow our county to
17 do is lower our taxes. It's going to allow the
18 school district to pay for the new school building
19 that's just been completed. It's going to be just a
20 tremendous benefit to have that revenue come in.

21 It's going to create jobs. One thing that
22 they're talking about a proposed man camp in Harding

23

1 County. They camp would be the largest city in the
2 county. And yeah, short term it's going to cause
3 some problems with our infrastructure, but the
4 financial benefit to local businesses is just going
5 to be tremendous. It can't be overstated.

6 It's going to create jobs not just during the
7 construction phase, but long term. We say in this
8 area, in Eastern Montana, Western North Dakota,
9 Western South Dakota, that in agriculture country
10 that the best, highest quality product that we raise
11 is our children. But the problem is there aren't
12 any jobs for our children to come home to. We send
13 them off to colleges, and they are the top students,
14 and they get the finest education, but there just
15 aren't any good paying jobs for them to come back
16 to. And I think that Keystone XL is going to create
17 some of those jobs, where some of those locals will
18 be able to come home and work in these pump stations
19 and long term on some of these areas that will be
20 developed in the Keystone XL.

21 So I guess just to sum it up, I think it's in
22 the national interest. It's in the best interest of
23

1 the local governments, of the state governments.
2 And there is probably going to be a bump in the road
3 or two along the line, but there's just no reason
4 not to approve this permit and to move ahead and
5 improve things in the rural area here. Thank you.
6 (Applause.)

7 MR. STAUBER: Good afternoon, I'm Ed
8 Stauber, owner of Livestock Nutrition and Management
9 in Billings, Montana. I'm currently the President
10 of the downtown Billings Rotary Club. I will speak
11 in support of the Keystone XL Pipeline, both on a
12 benefit to Montana and a benefit to our national
13 interest.

14 Natural resource development is an important
15 economic requirement for Montana as a state and
16 Eastern Montana as a community. Harvesting of
17 natural resources requires systems of transportation
18 for processing and utilization. Pipelines move 71
19 percent of the crude and finished petroleum
20 products, and it is the most environmental friendly
21 method of transportation.

22 I've watched pipeline construction over the
23

1 years and am impressed with not only the quality of
2 methods but also the craftsmanship of the workers.
3 Safety of pipeline system has an excellent record.
4 Pipelines transport over 11.3 million barrels of
5 product per year. It's also the most cost
6 effective.

7 Montana has reached a cap on it's mill levy in
8 the eastern part of the state, and the access to the
9 pipeline at Baker will be an important part of
10 improving that revenue for both Montana and North
11 Dakota.

12 Harvesting natural resources is the best method
13 of developing revenue for cities, counties and
14 schools. Eastern Montana needs the jobs and the
15 revenue, and I strongly recommend and support the
16 construction of the Keystone XL Pipeline. Thank
17 you.

18 (Applause.)

19 MR. VANDER VALK: I thought I'd let the
20 lady go first, because I have-

21 MR. STEELE: You've got the first number?

22 MR. VANDER VALK: There you go. Okay,

23

1 we're doing it in the order. My name is Bob Vander
2 Valk, and I'm a proud citizen of Terry, Montana for
3 about the last three years. I moved there and
4 unbenounced (sic) to me they had a pipeline in the
5 works, and ever since then, I have been involved.
6 And I've been trying to see if we can get this
7 pipeline approved. And I hate to use a pun on you,
8 but it's going to take a man of steel, standing next
9 to Lois Lane here, to get this approved.

10 You get to take the message back to the master,
11 and you have to give him a message. He likes to
12 take cliches or use words to incentivize the
13 populous. And in this case, instead of using the
14 words, "Pass this act." Let's get going. Let's get
15 this approval process and bring it to an end. If
16 this pipeline had been on this side of the border,
17 without going through Morgan, it would have been in
18 place. It would have been going. It took Exxon
19 Mobile less than three months to get that pipeline
20 repaired up in Laurel.

21 Having said that, I've been in the oil business
22 for 52 years. I started out in California with

1 Union Oil Company of California. I was a resident
2 manager during the oil spill, and I saw the malaise
3 that was caused by that oil spill. And we fought
4 three wars and numerous conflicts in North Africa in
5 which we've been involved in, including the one in
6 Libya, even though we're not admitting we had men
7 and boots on the ground.

8 How many more wars is it going to take for us
9 to realize we've got a friend right across the
10 border, and we've got production right here in our
11 back yard that we can move safely and more
12 efficiently with a pipeline? It just happens to be
13 TransCanada who is willing to put up the big bucks,
14 without us having to put out a 535 million dollar
15 loan from the government to subsidize an alternative
16 energy.

17 I happened to be standing in line with about 10
18 people that were against the pipeline, including
19 Margo. I've got everyone telling me what the
20 objections were. Alternative energy is a solution
21 in 20 years. Until then, I would like to see the
22 people here in this audience, stick their hand up,

23

1 that came in anything other than a fossil fueled
2 vehicle? Any one? None of the 10 people, that I
3 stood in line with that were against the pipeline,
4 came here in anything other than a fossil fuel
5 vehicle. It tells the story. We're stuck with it.
6 I've been in this business - I'm 70 years old, I
7 started out sweeping in a warehouse in the back in
8 Los Angeles for Union Cal, worked my way up. And
9 now, I am living here in this area. I'm still in
10 that business. I'm still doing petroleum industry.

11 The manipulation of oil prices will take place,
12 but it won't be Canada. It won't be TransCanada; it
13 will be the hedge funds and the banks on Wall Street
14 playing a paper game. Unfortunately, Kushing,
15 Oklahoma is land locked and is used for that purpose
16 by the Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley's of the
17 world. That's where we need controls. Thank you
18 very much for your time.

19 (Applause.)

20 (6:00 p.m.)

21 MS. KIDDER: I'm with you on Goldman
22 Sachs, man. Hi, I'm Margie Kidder. I'm from

23

1 Livingston, Montana, and I find myself in a really
2 weird position. Because I'm a union member, I'm 100
3 percent pro union, 100 percent pro labor. I'm
4 really sick of watching unions and labor in this
5 country get shafted by politicians and huge
6 corporations, and some part of me feels I should be
7 sitting over there.

8 (Applause.)

9 However, I'm also in another weird position.
10 I'm an American and a Canadian. I was brought up in
11 Canadian mining camps, but I am appalled at the lies
12 that are being told and the hopes that are being
13 raised by TransCanada Pipeline Company in their
14 media campaign to sell the Keystone XL Pipelines to
15 Americans who are suffering terrible unemployment
16 and real hardships during these times.

17 So I'm going to talk about jobs, and I want you
18 to listen. I've got all this information from the
19 TransCanada Pipeline web site and the State
20 Department website. So, let's look at the promise
21 here of 13,000 or 20,000 construction jobs, and the
22 ads on TV say hundreds of thousands, which is way

23

1 out of the ballpark.

2 The engineering report that accompanied the
3 application, for presidential permit submitted to
4 the State Department by TransCanada in 2008, listed
5 a peak work force of 2,500 to 4,200 jobs. And of
6 these, only 10 to 15 percent are proposed to be
7 hired locally. The rest will be TransCanada
8 employees, Canadians, those terrible people,
9 although they are polite.

10 When TransCanada built the first Keystone
11 Pipeline, the exact number of local hires to their
12 workforce was 11 percent. There were not 13,000 new
13 jobs created in America.

14 Now less than a month ago, the State Department
15 released its final environmental impact statement of
16 the Keystone XL project. Again, it predicted 10 to
17 15 percent of the workforce would be American
18 construction jobs. In a state by state analysis, it
19 calculated that the number of locally hired
20 construction positions would be 50 to 100 per
21 spread. Now, there's 17 spreads over the length of
22 this project. This adds up to 920 to 1,770

23

1 construction jobs for Americans, not 20,000 jobs or
2 100,000 jobs.

3 The people who want this pipeline built, the
4 pipeline builders and the oil companies, are lying
5 to us about the jobs they would create in our
6 communities. When the first Keystone Pipeline was
7 built, out of 398 welders and pipefitters who worked
8 on it in South Dakota, three, count them, three were
9 locally hired.

10 TransCanada's report states that 20 American
11 jobs will be created in the whole country for the
12 long term operation of the pipeline, and the State
13 Department Study found that, and I'm using quotes
14 from their website, "Unemployment rates in the
15 proposed project area would probably not be affected
16 in the long term." So for any given small town,
17 we're talking 50 to 100 jobs for a few months and
18 then nothing.

19 Now, what about manufacturing jobs? All that
20 pipeline needs to be constructed of steel. Well,
21 the first Keystone Pipeline, half the steel came
22 from India, and it wasn't very good steel. So just

23

1 because the pipeline is built in the United States,
2 it does not mean that its component parts will be
3 manufactured here. Many of them come from Asia, or
4 the materials will come from here. And here's where
5 you guys have to hear this. The manufacturing jobs
6 will go to whoever can provide the cheapest labor,
7 which is disgusting if you ask me.

8 Now, let's see the impacts of the pipeline if
9 it functioned properly. If as in Michigan last
10 year, - - oh, I'm over, skip that. But I'm just
11 going to say, in conclusion, that the history of the
12 United States in the West is a sad history of boom
13 and bust and these promises of 20,000 jobs are only
14 the latest smooth talking lies that have been
15 foisted upon us. And building the pipeline will, in
16 fact, employ few Americans, and it's not in our
17 national interest to use our beautiful land and
18 water to - - a Canadian company to create jobs for
19 Canadians and profits for Canadian oil companies, at
20 the expense of higher oil prices in the United
21 States and the possible loss of our pristine waters
22 and lands. And I will never be able to go to Canada
23

1 again. Thank you very much.

2 (Applause.)

3 MR. STEELE: Are you Kristen Walser?

4 MS. WALSER: What was that?

5 MR. STEELE: Are you Kristen Walser?

6 MS. WALSER: Yes, I am.

7 MR. STEELE: Okay, very good. Thank you
8 for keeping watch of the numbers, and also I presume
9 Joan Kresich? Okay, very good. And following them
10 please, we have number 31, Chad Gilbert and 32,
11 Frances Stewart please. Go ahead.

12 MS. WALSER: My name is Kristen Walser,
13 I'm from Bozeman. I love Montana. I love the
14 United States. I love jobs. I am a union member as
15 well. We've heard a lot this afternoon about
16 national security. And I think the woman over there
17 who was saying, and I totally agree with everyone
18 who is saying, we have been fighting for oil for
19 probably since who knows when, probably since oil
20 was even found. And it has cost us lives and money.

21 But this pipeline or what's in the pipeline is
22 not necessarily going to be going to the United

23

1 States of America. It is going to be privately
2 sold. It's going to be sold to the highest bidder.
3 And that can be the U.S., but it could also be
4 China, and it could also be Europe. Europe is
5 starting to look at putting a price on dirty oil.
6 So, the Canadian government has lobbied the European
7 Union to not pass that bill because they don't want
8 to see the U.S. get on board with that because
9 Canada is thinking that they might be selling to the
10 European Union.

11 But I also want to talk a little bit about what
12 the military and the Department of State has
13 formulated in 2010, as the National Security
14 Strategy Paper. It means five threats to U.S.
15 security, and it starts with terrorism, as we could
16 all agree. Second comes weapons of mass
17 destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, which
18 again, it's scary in Pakistan right now. Third,
19 space and cyber space capabilities that power our
20 daily lives. Our military operations are vulnerable
21 to disruption and attack. Number four, dependence
22 on fossil fuels constrains our options and pollutes
23

1 our environment. And number five, climate change
2 and pandemic disease threaten the security of
3 regions and the health and safety of the American
4 people.

5 We need to look beyond our narrow point of
6 view. We need to see what really can be happening
7 to us, and what can really threaten our security.
8 Hurricanes are going to be threatening our security,
9 tornados, floods, drought. That threatens our food
10 supply. It threatens our health. And when it tears
11 down your own house, or floods your house or your
12 fields, what's going to happen when that's happening
13 to every single one of us in this room?

14 The insurance companies aren't going to be able
15 to help us. They will have paid out all of the
16 money, or else they're going to say - - and they're
17 already doing that. Companies are pulling out of
18 Florida. They're pulling out of Louisiana.

19 FEMA, the federal agency that's supposed to be
20 helping us, people in Congress have already been
21 trying to cut that back. This is the effects of
22 this dirty fuel. This fuel is going to be, it's

1 equal to like 4 million cars a year extra emissions.

2 That would gut whatever we had hoped to ever
3 save with all our plans that we have now. We need
4 to turn the Titanic around. We need to take every
5 measure we can to not use this especially dirty oil.
6 This is not conventional oil. This is especially -
7 - and it doesn't even make sense, because one last
8 thing.

9 It takes five to six times, it takes one fifth
10 of the world's natural gas just to heat it up and
11 get it in that pipe and get it moving. It doesn't
12 make sense. Thank you.

13 (Applause.)

14 MS. KRESICH: My name is Joan Kresich. I'm
15 a Livingston resident and I am a long time teacher.
16 I have always tried to support children in the
17 classroom who take a dissenting position, and I'm
18 going to take one today, proudly, because I feel
19 that it's very, very much a part of our American
20 tradition.

21 The answer to the question, is the pipeline in
22 our national interest? No, it is not in our

23

1 interest. It's not in the interest of the people of
2 our nation. It's not in the interest of those who
3 will follow us. It's not in the interest of
4 protecting and preserving our land, our air, our
5 water. Not in the interest of a safe and healthy
6 future.

7 TransCanada would like us to believe they'll
8 provide good jobs. Of course, we need jobs.
9 Everywhere in Montana the suffering from lack of
10 jobs is evident. But we don't want any job. Ask
11 the people of Libby. They had jobs, and now their
12 town is reeling from cancer deaths and
13 contamination. Americans are thoughtful and
14 intelligent people. We're able to ask, what kind of
15 job? For how long? At what wage? What is the
16 commitment, the scope of the XL Pipeline mean, truly
17 mean, for our future?

18 The very few short term jobs the pipeline will
19 provide won't offset the threats it poses. It will
20 force thousands of gallons of the dirtiest oil
21 through our heartland. May rupture? TransCanada
22 can promise today, tomorrow, but the promises mean
23

1 nothing. When the inevitable ruptures happen, they
2 don't have the ability to clean up, not in Montana
3 and not in anywhere else. The productive land
4 polluted by spills is never fully restored. Too bad
5 for the people who's lands are ruined, too bad for
6 the ecosystems which must recover on their own over
7 many years.

8 Keystone 1 has ruptured 14 times already in one
9 year, including a 21,000 gallon spill in North
10 Dakota. That may not seem like a huge spill, but if
11 it's your land, if it's land you love, it hurts.

12 Tar sands oil extraction, which hasn't been
13 mentioned here to my knowledge, at least, I didn't
14 hear it. It is an abomination to the Earth. Land
15 in Alberta will never be reclaimed, will never again
16 provide sustenance for the chain of generations of
17 people, for the web of animals. The tar sands land
18 is dead. Dead today, dead for the people of the
19 next generation. We don't need the filthiest oil
20 threatening our heartland with spills, threatening
21 the Ogallala Aquifer and clean water for millions.

22 We need a national pledge to move toward green

1 energy. Brazil gets 50 percent of their energy from
2 renewable sources. Germany will be at 35 percent by
3 2020. We're being left in the dust, and that is the
4 true threat to our national well-being.

5 The U.S. has historically lead the way but now
6 we're trailing. China is capturing the solar
7 market. Spain is positioning itself to take the
8 lead in wind. While other countries embrace the
9 future, the U.S. is considering chaining itself to
10 the dirty energy of the past century and a dangerous
11 pipeline that will pour more carbon into an
12 atmosphere already well above the 350 parts per
13 million line that climate scientists agree is the
14 safe limit if we want a livable Earth.

15 NASA climate scientist, James Hanson, called
16 the tar sands, "A fuse to a carbon bomb." This last
17 year, we've seen the most frightening climate in the
18 U.S. and around the world. Texas broke heat record
19 after heat record, is burning up literally.

20 FEMA reports that state of emergency's (sic)
21 have been called in 48 out of 50 states this year,
22 for the first time ever, and funds are running out.

1 By August this year, climate emergencies had cost
2 our nation 35 billion and climbing. So no, the
3 pipeline is not in our national interest.

4 I'm here to speak for a clean energy future.
5 I'm here to say yes to jobs that provide for people
6 and families and a future that is livable for our
7 children and their children. We don't have to
8 choose between those two things. It's a false
9 choice.

10 I'm here to say yes to the U.S. stepping into a
11 leadership position once again. That's where we
12 belong. I'm here to say yes to caring for our
13 planet as though it were the only one we have,
14 because it is. I'm here to say yes to life on
15 Earth.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. GILBERT: Mr. Steele, I would like to
18 send greetings to the State Department. My name is
19 Chad Gilbert, and I represent pipeline workers from
20 the UA Local Union 798, for a large portion of the
21 United States.

22 Our workers include members of many Indian
23

1 tribes in the west, including the largest, the
2 Navaho Nation. Also of our 6,600 members, many are
3 environmentalists. Some are supporters of the
4 Sierra Club.

5 I have over 25 years experience as a pipeline
6 construction worker, and I am here to speak in favor
7 of the Keystone XL Pipeline and to agree with the
8 EIS report that states the project would result in
9 limited adverse environmental impacts during both
10 construction and operation. After studying the EIS
11 report, I can honestly say the green contractors
12 from Oklahoma to Montana that will be chosen by
13 Keystone will no doubt be building the safest and
14 most environmentally friendly pipeline in our
15 history.

16 The quality of UA labor that will be welding
17 this pipeline is unmatched in the world to date.
18 With the placement of more mainline valves, more
19 smart pigging of this line, and with the oversight
20 of a talented PHMSA group, we will not fail in
21 building a sound and safe pipeline.

22 The towns and communities along the route will

1 benefit from a boost to their economies from good,
2 high paying jobs that will also filter an economic
3 boom to those communities.

4 Some fear leaks. But if the worst possible
5 spill happened, we are looking at a quick cleanup,
6 and it would be like a drop of oil from an empty can
7 compared to an Exxon Valdez spill from using a
8 tanker to ship oil from Alaska. Believe me, a
9 pipeline is far safer.

10 Keystone has agreed to utilize a comprehensive
11 SCADA system to monitor and control the proposed
12 pipeline. Data provided by the SCADA system would
13 alert the operations control to any abnormal
14 operating conditions, including a possible spill or
15 leak. A backup communication system would also be
16 available should the SCADA communications fail
17 between the field and the OCC.

18 I believe the installation of more mainline
19 valves and the SCADA system will greatly reduce the
20 amount or possibility of a leak or spill. No one
21 can assure you there will never be a leak or spill,
22 but I can assure you not one drop of this oil comes
23

1 from a country that would use our wealth to try to
2 destroy our way of life. And no war would ever be
3 fought to stabilize the region that will supply this
4 oil. Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 MR. STEELE: Frances Stewart?

7 MS. STEWART: Yes, I am.

8 MR. STEELE: Also, can I call Ms. Dena
9 Hoff please, and Mr. Phillip Wallace and Mr. Jerry
10 Blevins. Please go ahead.

11 MS. STEWART: My name is Frances Stewart.
12 I am a land owner in Livingston, Montana and also a
13 mother. All of us here know that oil, in any form,
14 is a finite substance, a nonrenewable resource. We
15 also know that there are grave risks to the quality
16 of the water we drink and the air we take for
17 granted every day, in the form of the huge and
18 inevitable pipe ruptures and spills that
19 historically have occurred in the oil and gas
20 extraction process.

21 The oil industry has not proven that it has the
22 knowledge or capability to clean up or even stop

23

1 these environmental disasters when they occur. Now,
2 I've lived in Montana for over 30 years and been a
3 landowner here in Livingston for over 12. But
4 before that, I grew up on the Gulf Coast, so I do
5 know what it's like to live many years in a land
6 that's surrounded by the oil and gas extraction
7 process and the disasters that do occur every day.

8 Anyone here with children and grandchildren
9 might agree that in order for these young people to
10 inherit a world that is fit to live in and offers
11 them an acceptable quality of life, personal dignity
12 and physical health, we must shift our focus to
13 renewable resources such as the sun. It won't
14 happen if we don't start.

15 The United States used to lead the world in
16 technological research. We used to. We've lost
17 that standing to countries such as Germany and China
18 to name a few, who have sped past the United States
19 in alternative and green energy research.

20 If TransCanada is truly concerned about the
21 national interest of the United States, this company
22 might better put the seven billion dollars it will

1 cost to build this pipeline toward technological
2 research, which makes renewable energy dependable,
3 affordable, competitive and, especially, exportable.
4 This is what will provide jobs and fix our economy
5 in the long run.

6 Taking a long range approach to energy
7 independence with an absolute and unwavering concern
8 for the environment and the future we are handing
9 over to our children and grandchildren makes the
10 most sense of all. Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 MS. HOFF: My name is Dena Hoff, my family
13 operates an irrigated farm down river from where the
14 proposed pipeline will cross under the river. And I
15 am here to express my dismay with the perpetration
16 of the myth of the national interest in the building
17 of this pipeline and of the use of high unemployment
18 and high energy prices to rally the public and the
19 media in support.

20 From Day 1, the Keystone XL intent has been to
21 refine Alberta tar sands in Texas for export, mainly
22 to Europe and Latin America. Valero Energy in Texas

23

1 guarantees TransCanada a purchase of at least
2 100,000 barrels a day, 20 percent of Keystone XL's
3 capacity, until 2030. Better still, this refinery
4 operates as a foreign trade zone, and it won't pay
5 any tax or custom duties on its exports.

6 Lack of due diligence in overseeing this
7 endeavor has been admitted by Cynthia Quarterman,
8 who is the top pipeline safety regulator, who stated
9 that her agency had not studied the risks posed by
10 tar sands pipelines and was not able to comment on
11 them. TransCanada's main lobbyist, David Goldwyn,
12 was a major aid in Secretary of State Clinton's
13 presidential campaign and a former State Department
14 energy envoy. That's just another example of the
15 revolving door between government agencies and
16 corporations.

17 This country is currently experiencing an oil
18 glut, belaying the urgency of this pipeline in
19 securing energy independence for the U.S.. Has any
20 of this glut found it's way into our strategic
21 reserves? How does becoming dependent on Canada for
22 oil make us energy independent?

23

1 Americans have very short memories. Congress
2 approved the North Slope Drilling and the Alaskan
3 Pipeline only because no experts were to be
4 permitted, only to have President Clinton sign an
5 executive order allowing foreign exports. The
6 refinery in Coos Bay, Oregon was promoted as a
7 source for domestic consumption. It now exports
8 almost entirely to Asia. Don't be fooled again.
9 Keystone XL will be an unnecessary 1,711 mile gash
10 through our country's heartland. Let's all pledge
11 together to solve real issues of national interest,
12 like peace and a safe and adequate domestic food
13 supply.
14 (Applause.)

15 MR. WALLACE: My name is Phillip Wallace,
16 and I'm a 36 year pipeline welder, member of
17 Pipeliners Local 798 of the United Association,
18 which has a membership of 340,000 skilled craftsmen
19 in the pipefitting and pipeline industry of the
20 United States and Canada. I serve Local 798 as
21 business agent over the XL Pipeline from Montana to
22 the Oklahoma/Texas state line.

23

1 My local union has around 7,000 highly skilled
2 pipeline welders, fitters and welder helpers. We
3 have trained welders for over 60 years, and in March
4 of this year, we opened out new seven million dollar
5 training center in Tulsa, Oklahoma with all the
6 latest welding technology used in the pipeline
7 industry.

8 I have worked with TransCanada since the last
9 presidential permit was issued for the border
10 crossing into North Dakota in 2008, where Local 798
11 and our contractors laid the 30 inch Keystone
12 Pipeline from the Canadian border through North and
13 South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri
14 and Illinois. Keystone Project was a big step for
15 the United States to become less dependent on OPEC
16 countries we buy oil from now.

17 This meeting is all about the environmental
18 impact the Keystone XL Pipeline will have on the
19 land that it crosses. Our contractors have
20 environmental crews that have the training and
21 experience to meet all EPA requirements. The cost
22 of doing it right is very high, but TransCanada is
23

1 dedicated to awarding the job to the best valued
2 contactor that will do that. We have a slogan at
3 Local 798, and it says, "If you don't build it
4 right, don't build it at all."

5 America needs these jobs to stimulate the
6 economy and help this country put pipeline workers
7 back to work. The Keystone XL Pipeline will create
8 from 13 to 15,000 new construction jobs for the next
9 two and a half to three years. The state and local
10 tax revenue will be in the hundreds of thousands of
11 dollars to be spent on roads and schools. The
12 cities and towns along the pipeline route will be
13 stimulated as well by housing the workers in motels,
14 RV parks, apartments, rental property and along with
15 food sales and any goods that they may need.
16 This is a win/win situation for everyone. Also, not
17 one tax dollar will be spent financing this project.

18 Energy security can be had with the help from
19 our Canadian friends to pump their crude to this
20 country's refineries in the Texas Gulf Coast. The
21 XL Pipeline will run through the Bakken Oil Field in
22 Montana and the Dakotas, where it will pick up the

1 American crude and transport it to the refineries as
2 well.

3 I'll close with a plea for Secretary of State,
4 Ms. Hillary Rodham Clinton. Please issue this
5 presidential permit for the border crossing of the
6 TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline, so the pipeline
7 workers of this nation can get back to work.

8 If this permit is not issued, this crude will
9 be shipped by supertanker to China to be refined
10 with no environmental protection, and then
11 supertanked back to us, to the U.S., to be sold for
12 10 times the price. We must have crude oil to buy
13 the time it will take this great country to go green
14 and clean. Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 MR.BLEVINS: Hi, my name is Terry Blevins.
17 I am a landowner. I have read a lot of stuff about
18 this pipeline, and there's been changes through the
19 years. I mean the thing is supposed to have been
20 started by now, but it's not, and that's fine. They
21 kind of need to be put in their place and security
22 measures taken place.

23

1 Being a landowner, I don't want to see a spill
2 on my land, ever, but I can't be guaranteed that. I
3 know from other landowners that have pipelines, they
4 can't even sell their land. They'll have someone
5 interested, and they just, "Oh no, goodbye." So for
6 the environmental, I would really like to see them
7 put it in black and white, like they want, and stick
8 to it. Don't have the paragraph afterwards where
9 they let them all out, like they did in their first
10 statement. It's just ridiculous. My land has been
11 in my family for generations, and I plan to keep it
12 that way. But with this pipeline going through it,
13 that's kind of a tough deal. They're talking a
14 little spill, and my land, it's going to be a big
15 spill even if it's a little spill.

16 And there's lots of people here. I don't want
17 to take anybody's job or anything away from them,
18 but I just want the pipeline to be put in the right
19 way. The way it is supposed to be done. And
20 everything I see from them; they don't really care.
21 They pretty much tell you, "I've got three
22 proposals." And they say absolutely nothing about
23

1 what they are going to do or how they are going to
2 do it. That's all I've got.

3 (Applause.)

4 MR. STEELE: I have just one brief
5 announcement. Around 7:00 o'clock, we're going to
6 take a short break. This is largely for the
7 technical folks, to be able to check the equipment
8 and make sure that the microphones are still working
9 correctly. But we've got about 30 more minutes
10 before that. I would like to call please Mr. Wade
11 Sikirski or Sikinski, Number 36, 37, Mr. Dave Galt,
12 Mr. Mark Ek, and 39, Mr. Ole Stimac, please.

13 MR. SIKIRSKI: My name is Wade Sikirski.
14 My family has a farm 20 miles south of Baker. The
15 Keystone Pipeline will pass a couple of miles to the
16 east of us. I've been following a lot of research
17 on climate change pretty extensively. And according
18 to scientists that I've been following, my Montana
19 county could basically have 60 days a year with
20 temperatures over 100 by the end of this century.
21 This last year, we had one day and the year before
22 we didn't have any days with temperatures over 100.
23

1 Also according to a climate model that I saw
2 just recently on a blog, a recent climate model says
3 that we could have, within 20 to 30 years, a drought
4 in Montana like Texas is having right now. And we
5 grow food. I mean we grow cattle; we grow wheat; we
6 grow corn; we grow lentils. And I just can not - -
7 my family has been growing, farming for 100 years,
8 and I just can not imagine how we can continue to
9 grow a crop with those kind of temperature changes.

10 And if this Keystone XL pipeline and burning
11 the Otter Creek Coal, that's business as usual. And
12 if we continue doing things like that, we simply
13 will not be able to grow the food that people need
14 to eat.

15 It's very simple. I mean this is not, this
16 Keystone Pipeline is not going to be economic
17 development. It's going to be an economic disaster
18 for the children of the people living here and
19 possibly within our lifetime. The climate model
20 that I saw said that we are going to start having a
21 drought like Texas has in 20 or 30 years. I mean,
22 that's us; that's not our children. So please,

23

1 oppose this pipeline. Don't build it.

2 (Applause.)

3 MR. GALT: For the record, my name is Dave
4 Galt, and I'm the Executive Director of the Montana
5 Petroleum Association. Members of the Montana
6 Petroleum Association are responsible for
7 developing, exploring, producing, transporting and
8 processing the majority of the oil and gas in
9 Montana.

10 President Obama has been making speeches around
11 the country in support of his jobs bill lately.
12 He's talked about how private construction companies
13 all across America are just waiting to go to work,
14 and how a world class transportation system is part
15 of what made this country an economic superpower.

16 Well, suppose there was a jobs opportunity
17 right now that would create thousands of jobs, many
18 of them in the construction industry. And suppose
19 this program could enhance our transportation system
20 and improve out national security and our energy
21 independence. Suppose it would stimulate 20 billion
22 in new spending for the U.S. economy and suppose it
23

1 would add more than 585 million dollars in new state
2 and local tax revenues for much of the West and
3 Midwest. And suppose this program was all privately
4 funded and not paid for at all by U.S. tax payers.

5 Well, that's just what we have here. That's
6 just the opportunity we're looking at with the seven
7 billion dollar TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline. It
8 just needs the President to say yes.

9 A key ingredient of the pipeline project is
10 that it would provide a more efficient and
11 competitive way for getting Bakken Oil out of the
12 Williston Basin in Eastern Montana and Western North
13 Dakota to market. Oil and gas are not the only
14 ingredients required for America's energy
15 independence and security, but they will be vital
16 for our economic health for decades to come.

17 If creating jobs at a time of national economic
18 distress matters, if greater energy security and
19 independence matter, if a stronger alliance with a
20 responsible ally like Canada matters, the Keystone
21 XL is clearly in America's national interest.

22 President Obama has promised a decision soon on
23

1 whether or not to permit the Keystone XL Project.
2 The Montana Petroleum Association believes that time
3 has come. We urge a finding in the national
4 security or national interest of this country, and
5 urge support of the pipeline. Thank you.
6 (Applause.)

7 MR. FIK: Hi, I'm Mark Fik. I'm a rancher
8 and irrigator near Mound City, Montana. I've also
9 worked for Boeing, for about 13 years before that,
10 as a mechanical test engineer. I was also a union
11 rep for SPEEA when I worked for Boeing.

12 One of the things that I wanted to talk to you
13 about, I think, on this is basically the
14 characteristics of this oil. It's different than
15 any standard oil. It has more sand in it because of
16 the way it comes out of the ground. And because of
17 that, I don't think you can look at your safety
18 factors on your pipe the same way.

19 Basically, we all know what happens when we
20 sandblast parts to clean them, and with the sand
21 that's going to be in this oil, it's going to
22 sandblast the inside of the pipe. And so, it will

23

1 cause it to erode more quickly and very well needs
2 to be looked at. And it's not something that you
3 can just apply a standard pipe formula to. You've
4 got to look at other factors. You can't just assume
5 that it's the same as a standard oil and gas.

6 The other thing, as a landowner, I wanted to
7 basically talk to you about is that we feel that the
8 landowners that are crossed need to be fairly
9 treated. And I think that one of the things that
10 needs to be looked at is possibly paying those
11 landowners by the gallon that goes through that
12 pipeline every year. That way it keeps them more
13 accountable, and I think it would be more respective
14 of the land, and it would truly be an economic
15 development for those landowners. Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. STIMAC: My name is Ole Stimac Junior.
18 I'm a third generation pipefitter, and I'm proud to
19 say that my son is a fourth generation pipefitter.
20 I'm a native Montanan. I've lived here most of my
21 life. My years away from Montana were in the
22 1980's. I spent it in the United States Navy on

23

1 board destroyers protecting the sea lanes from the
2 Persian Gulf through the Straits of Oman into the
3 Indian Ocean and into the Pacific. Much of the
4 commerce that we protected was oil from Iraq. And
5 we all know how that turned out for us.

6 Thank you for allowing me to address this
7 hearing. I am a proud member of the United
8 Association. I represent 340,000 members and their
9 families. That amounts to more than 1 million
10 American men, women and children who are part of our
11 larger, extended United Association family. Their
12 future is what matters to me. I am happy that the
13 State Department's environmental impact statement
14 and the department's exhaustive investigation of the
15 Keystone Pipeline XL Project approved it, will not
16 have any significant, negative impact on the
17 environment.

18 I want to talk to you today about importing
19 this oil from Canada, or what it would mean to the
20 United States, to my fellow members and their
21 families, in fact, to every single person in this
22 country.

1 Every minute of every day as a nation, we spend
2 one million dollars on oil from the Middle East and
3 other not so friendly nations. In fact, our growing
4 dependence on foreign oil represents the largest
5 transfer of wealth from our country to other
6 nations. It simply can not go on. We now import 65
7 percent of our oil from other nations. Last year,
8 we spent 450 billion on foreign oil. That money is
9 gone forever.

10 The Keystone XL Pipeline is the best
11 opportunity we've had in many generations to
12 dramatically and substantially reduce that
13 dependance. Every member of the United Association
14 supports the development of alternative energy. We
15 understand that this is necessary to our future.
16 But we also know that we are many, many, perhaps
17 even decades, from making this a reality.

18 In the meantime, we will continue to be
19 dependent on oil, gas and other fossil fuel sources.
20 The oil from Alberta oil sands will come from our
21 closest ally and neighbor, and it will substantially
22 increase our refining capability in Texas, where

1 there is a skilled workforce ready to receive it.

2 We also believe that sending this oil to
3 American refineries is safer and smarter than
4 offshore drilling in the Gulf region. Pipelines
5 have a proven and unassailable track record as being
6 the safest and most efficient way to transport
7 petroleum products. We need this oil.

8 I want to ask you to consider, also, what
9 Keystone will do for our economy and for the
10 American people. It will create tens of thousands
11 of jobs over its lifetime. It will create hundreds
12 of thousands of jobs, and we need those jobs.

13 Keystone has the potential to reinvigorate the
14 American manufacturing sector, through their
15 production of pipe and associated material and
16 equipment. We need to make things here in this
17 country, and this pipe will be American made.

18 Keystone is the most scrutinized project in
19 recent memory. I can think of no project that has
20 been reviewed more thoroughly than this one. But
21 that's fine with us because we know this project
22 will be safe and environmentally sound. That's how

23

1 we build it with the United Association of
2 Journeymen and Plumbers.

3 There's no reason to withhold the permit any
4 longer. We need this pipeline, and we need it now.
5 Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. STEELE: I'd like to call number 40,
8 Mayor Jimison, also Sean Smith, John Beunion and Max
9 Hallfrich.

10 MAYOR JIMISON: I'm first. You know since
11 I became mayor the city council has hated it. They
12 can't sleep through the meetings anymore. But I
13 don't think anybody has had a chance to properly
14 welcome all of you people to Glendive, Montana.
15 Welcome from the mayor, thank you for coming.

16 (Applause.)

17 Very quickly, I've never given a three minute
18 speech in my life, so this is going to be a
19 challenge.

20 The city of Glendive supports the proposed
21 Keystone XL Pipeline based on which is better, which
22 is worse. The city council is in favor of

23

1 supporting it in their referendum. Now, we all know
2 that the benefits that we will receive have to be
3 offset by some negatives, but we believe the
4 benefits or the positives are more.

5 No one should put all their eggs in one basket
6 when it comes to energy development and energy,
7 relying on one thing. We know we need green energy.
8 We know we need alternative energies. But we know
9 for the next umpteen years, we can not live without
10 fossil fuel. Now, if I have to make a choice of
11 buying my oil from Canada or Iran and Iraq, I think
12 the choice is pretty simple. For that, we favor the
13 Keystone XL Pipeline.

14 As far as construction standards. I've never
15 welded a pipe in my life. I rely on other people
16 who have, and who have built pipelines, to guarantee
17 the safety of the citizens of Glendive and all the
18 citizens of Montana.

19 National security is one of the talking points.
20 And whether or not it improves our national security
21 is not the question here. The question is will we
22 benefit more than we will have to give up? And the

1 other thing that the city of Glendive is looking at,
2 unbenounced to most of the people in this room, is,
3 being in Eastern Montana, we are sort of like the
4 great rich uncle that you have never met because
5 Eastern Montana produces the revenue and the taxes
6 that keeps the whole state of Montana alive and
7 going. Fifty percent of the tax base from this
8 pipeline will go directly to the state of Montana
9 and there the governor and our legislators will
10 distribute that money to the other 50 counties that
11 are not affected by the actual construction of this
12 pipeline. We're happy we can do that for the rest
13 of the state of Montana because we're all in this
14 together, and we all love Montana.

15 But what we have to realize is that the area
16 we're going throug is not Mazula or Billings or
17 Bozeman or Helena. It's not even Mazula where
18 people up there would never stand for something like
19 this coming through. But it will benefit them to
20 have it come through Eastern Montana, and they will
21 never have to see it, never have to look at it,
22 never have to know it's even there.

1 In closing, nobody in this room probably
2 stopped to think that of the six counties it crosses
3 in Montana, Glendive is the largest municipality
4 that it will come through. Of the six counties and
5 the six county seats, Glendive is the largest county
6 seat that will be affected. All I ask, as mayor, is
7 that the Keystone XL people make sure that they
8 treat the less than 50,000 people in these six
9 counties with dignity and with respect while they
10 are constructing the pipeline, and that they will
11 remain good neighbors for the next 50 years
12 afterwards.

13 And Mr. Steele and Hillary Rodham Clinton, I
14 urge your support of issuing this permit. Thank
15 you.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. SMITH: Sean Smith, Local 41 Plumbers
18 and Pipefitters. As a native Montanan and business
19 manager representing 400 members and their families,
20 I stand in support for jobs in Montana and the
21 Keystone Pipeline. Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23

1 MR. BENNION: Thank you. My name is Jon
2 Bennion. I'm the government relations director for
3 the Montana Chamber of Commerce. The Montana
4 Chamber is a statewide business advocacy group, with
5 its members in all areas of business and industry,
6 large and small and all over the great state of
7 Montana.

8 We know America needs to give more job
9 opportunities for unemployed workers. The public is
10 demanding more good paying jobs, and the Keystone XL
11 Project will provide good paying jobs.

12 I find it interesting that there has become
13 some discussion about whether or not there is going
14 to be a lot of jobs, just some jobs or not too many
15 jobs created out of this project. But I think the
16 obvious answer to not allowing the project to go
17 forward is that zero jobs will be created, and
18 that's not what the people are looking for.

19 We know America needs to rely more on domestic
20 energy sources and from energy from friendly
21 neighbors like Canada. The public is demanding
22 energy security and affordable energy. The Keystone
23

1 XL Project will provide more energy security for
2 America.

3 We know Montanans want to see more oil and gas
4 development in our state according to our own
5 statewide poll of 600 Montana likely voters. To be
6 exact, more than three quarters of Montanans want
7 the government to actively encourage more oil and
8 gas development in the state and around the country.
9 The Keystone XL Project will help get more Montana
10 oil to refineries without the discount many
11 producers have to pay in order to transport their
12 product.

13 We know America is running record deficits and
14 looking for ways to raise revenues without raising
15 taxes. The public wants to see more balanced
16 budgeting, both at the federal and state levels.
17 The Keystone XL Project will provide more revenues
18 for government at all levels.

19 It's important to note that this project goes
20 beyond the construction of a large pipeline and the
21 petroleum industry. This project will be an
22 economic boost to the state of Montana, especially
23

1 communities within Eastern Montana that are hungry
2 for economic development projects.

3 The primary beneficiaries of such development
4 will not only be the citizens of Montana, it will be
5 the small business community of Montana. Grocery
6 stores, hardware stores, restraunts, hotels and much
7 more will see an increase in traffic through their
8 doors. This can all be achieved with the
9 appropriate attention to important environmental
10 standards and to landholder property rights.

11 So the question here, why we are here today, is
12 whether or not this project is in our country's
13 national interest. When you look at each of these
14 points, it becomes incredibly obvious, perhaps
15 painfully obvious, that the Keystone XL Pipeline is
16 not just in our national interest, it's the kind of
17 project we should be trying to replicate around the
18 country. Private investment, good paying jobs,
19 answers for our energy needs and increased
20 government revenue without raising taxes.

21 I urge the President and the U.S. State
22 Department, along with thousands of businesses from

1 around the state of Montana to give this project a
2 green light. Thanks.

3 (Applause.)

4 MR. HALLFRICH: My name is Max Hallfrich.
5 I'm with the Teamsters in Great Falls, Montana. I'm
6 here to represent Teamsters Local 2 and Local 190
7 and all the Teamsters in Montana, to support this
8 project.

9 When we look at this project, we see the
10 benefits. We see the benefits of putting our men
11 and women of Montana back to work with a job that is
12 good pay and good benefits. We look at the benefits
13 of having our country have additional resources with
14 a good trading partner for extra oil.

15 We also look at the benefits to all the cities
16 and the counties that we deal with directly, across
17 the state of Montana, especially in the eastern part
18 of Montana, where they will benefit with the extra
19 tax revenue that they will receive. With that,
20 they'll be able to make adjustments to help their,
21 not only their infrastructure and the needs of their
22 communities, but also their citizens as well. We

23

1 urge your support for this project. Thank you

2 MR. STEELE: I'd like to call please
3 number 44, Mr. Jason Rittal; 45, Mr. Steve Carey;
4 46, Mr. Scott Smith and 47, Mr. Dave Kasten.
5 Please.

6 MR. RITTAL: Thank you Mr. Steele, for the
7 opportunity to speak. My name is Jason Rittal. I'm
8 the executive director of the Eastern Plains
9 Economic Development Corporation. We are a regional
10 EDC that covers five counties, three of which are
11 directly impacted by the Keystone XL Pipeline.

12 I'm here on behalf of my Board of Directors,
13 who voted at our last meeting in favor of the
14 Keystone XL Pipeline. They recognize the importance
15 of the Keystone to the counties, affecting the tax
16 base and also the businesses therein. We cover not
17 only the five counties, but also seven
18 municipalities in that area.

19 This project is going to create hundreds of
20 jobs in our area. They may not all be local jobs,
21 but they're jobs, and they're important to those
22 folks sitting over there. And they will spend their
23

1 money in our communities, which is vital.

2 But long term, the impact is through the county
3 revenues. We have counties that are getting by,
4 trying to maintain up to 1,000 miles of road in the
5 rural areas, and this will add money to the coffers
6 to keep those roads updated, helping our
7 agricultural base.

8 In addition to that, improving infrastructure
9 in these areas will add jobs through economic
10 development down the road. If we don't have the
11 infrastructure in place, if we can't afford to put
12 it in place, then the jobs can't come. So long
13 term, this is vital to our local communities. I
14 thank you and urge your support of the presidential
15 permit. Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. CAREY: Mr. Steele, my name is Steve
18 Carey. I'm a 31 year member of the United
19 Associated of Plumbers and Pipefitters of the United
20 States and Canada.

21 This project has put lots of my brothers and
22 sisters to work.

23

1 One thing we have to remember, if we do not
2 transport this crude through a pipeline, it's going
3 to be traveling on roads, on trucks, trains. This
4 is the safest, cleanest way to move this product.

5 Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. SMITH: Mr. Steele, I want to thank
8 you for allowing me to speak at this hearing
9 tonight. My name is Scott Smith for the record.
10 I'm the business manager of the Plumbers and
11 Steamfitters Local 44, which is located in Spokane,
12 Washington. I've been the business manager for over
13 20 years. But I'm here tonight representing the
14 United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of
15 the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry of the United
16 States and Canada. We are 340,000 members strong,
17 and I have been a proud member since 1978.

18 Our nation is facing many problems today, and I
19 believe that's something we can all agree on. The
20 two biggest challenges we face are high unemployment
21 and national security. These are issues I think no
22 one is disputing, but how we handle these problems

23

1 is usually where the conflict comes in. And the
2 TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline is now at the
3 center of such conflict because of misconception of
4 how this project will affect the environment.

5 However, this project has been comprehensively
6 and thoroughly reviewed by a number of state and
7 federal agencies, including the U.S. State
8 Department. What the State Department found after
9 extensive investigation was that the Keystone would
10 have no significant impact on the environment.

11 It's important to the United Association that
12 everyone understands that the security of our
13 environment is and will continue to be an important
14 concern to us. We are deeply committed to
15 preserving our air, water, natural resources for
16 future generations. But we also know pipelines have
17 already been shown to be the safest as well as the
18 most economically viable and environmentally secure
19 way to transport oil. There are already more than
20 50,000 miles of pipeline in existence. This project
21 will continue the tradition of environmental
22 integrity that the United Association and our

1 signatory contractors have demonstrated for decades.

2 So, if Keystone will not create any major
3 impact on the environment, what will it create? The
4 answer is jobs. Thousands of jobs over the course
5 of its useful lifetime. The Keystone Project will
6 create much needed jobs in construction almost
7 immediately. Manufacturing is another industry
8 that's been hit hard in recent years, and the
9 Keystone can provide jobs involving the production
10 of materials and components for the pipeline, jobs
11 our nation desperately needs.

12 The Keystone Pipeline will certainly have
13 benefits for the national economy, especially
14 considering that every time there is a shortage of
15 oil, and there is a rise in gas prices, we hear
16 about the effects of every individual and every
17 business, small and large, not just in terms of what
18 consumers pay at the pump, but also increases to
19 manufacturing, transportation costs in virtually
20 every product and service that we all enjoy.

21 This project that will have even greater
22 benefits for the states, local communities along

23

1 it's route, by pumping 600 million in new tax
2 revenues into their economies. Local businesses
3 will prosper as families in these communities who
4 have pipeline related jobs and thus money to spend
5 on local goods and services. It's a win/win
6 situation.

7 With all the heated debates now taking place on
8 the subject of taxes, it's also important to note
9 that this project will cost American taxpayers zero.
10 Instead of a bail out, this situation is almost a
11 complete reversal.

12 Finally, on the third issue, one of national
13 security, please consider the source of this oil.
14 It's coming from one of our closest allies and
15 largest trading partners. We already import more
16 oil from Canada than any other country, and this
17 additional supply could help us reduce our
18 dependence on oil from Middle East nations that do
19 not offer the stability and friendship of our
20 neighbor to the north.

21 We also ask you to remember that if we don't
22 secure and refine this oil, then China will. China
23

1 will then sell it back to us at a higher cost.

2 The oil in Canada is coming out of the ground,
3 no matter what we do here in the U.S.. This is oil
4 that we need and will make us more secure and
5 strengthen our nation and local economies
6 significantly.

7 It's a small world we live in, so why not build
8 this pipeline and refine the oil in the United
9 States where we have much stricter environmental
10 rules and standards, which in turn will be much
11 better for the environment and overall health of our
12 planet. Make no mistake about it, fossil fuel
13 energy is in everyone in this room's future. Your
14 kids' future, you grandkids', your great grandkids'
15 future.

16 In my 20 plus years as business manager, I've
17 seen three to four dozen large diameter pipeline
18 projects come through my territory. And I must say
19 TransCanada has been wonderful to work with. My
20 region is Northern Idaho, Eastern Washington, has
21 many river crossings, very mountainous with many
22 river crossings. TransCanada is not just now but
23

1 always took great care in regards to the environment
2 when completing a pipeline project.

3 Right now in Spokane Valley, I have a 36 inch
4 TransCanada mainline pipeline project which started
5 over a week ago yesterday. And I know they are
6 taking care of the environment as well as
7 construction safety are TransCanada's top concerns.

8 The question of whether or not the TransCanada
9 Keystone Pipeline moves forward is really a question
10 of whether or not America moves forward. It should
11 not be a political issue, nor should it be based on
12 personal ideology. This should be about what's best
13 for our nation. So it's time to put all those
14 issues aside, focus on the facts. When you examine
15 the facts, you'll find that the TransCanada Keystone
16 XL Pipeline is good for the American economy and
17 good for the American people.

18 Can we do this job environmentally safely?
19 Yes. Do we need this pipeline? Yes. Why do we
20 need this pipeline? We need it for jobs. Please
21 issue the permit. Thank you for your time.

22 (Applause.)

23

1 MR. KASTEN Thank you, Mr. Steele, and I
2 would like to welcome the Department of State to
3 energy rich Eastern Montana. For the record, my
4 name is Dave Kasten. I'm a rancher. I have ranches
5 in McCone and Prairie Counties. My address is 113
6 Bob Fudge in Brockway, Montana. The reason I give
7 you that address is that one of my ranches includes
8 the homestead of Bob Fudge, who bought Texas steers
9 and trailed them up into Brockway and in this area.
10 And he ran cattle between the rivers, the
11 Yellowstone and the Missouri.

12 Now, we haven't been able to send them anything
13 back in return. As a matter of fact, this year with
14 the drought, they have been sending more livestock
15 up this way. And you know we can't take oil and
16 herd it down to Texas, but this pipeline will do
17 that.

18 Now for security reasons, I would like to speak
19 to that too. This pipeline would really help the
20 security of our nation. I have a grandson in South
21 Dakota that served in Iraq. I have a great grandson
22 in South Dakota that was named after a kid that was
23

1 shot in Iraq in the war. And for those reasons, I
2 think this thing is necessary to do. Each day the
3 United States has 200,000 miles of pipeline that
4 moves oil through other energy projects. Every day,
5 200,000 miles, and they do it safely.

6 Whether it's in the national interest, I think
7 for a couple of reasons I've given, and there's a
8 lot of people here who stated a lot of facts. I
9 gave you my address. I have your address. I will
10 be mailing in more things. I already have done
11 that. But building the Keystone XL is definitely in
12 the United States' interest. Thank you.

13 (Applause.)

14 MR. STEELE: I would like to call please,
15 Mr. Al Ekblad, Ms., I believe, Kim Rickard, and Mr.
16 Mack Cole please. If we can do these, and then
17 we're going to take that break at around 7:00
18 o'clock. Please.

19 MR. EKBLAD: Good evening. Thank you for
20 conducting this hearing in Montana and providing
21 Montanans with the opportunity to offer comments on
22 the construction of the Keystone XL Pipeline.

23

1 My name is Allen Ekblad. I'm the executive
2 secretary of the Montana AFL CIO. We represent more
3 than 400 labor organizations and consoles within our
4 state federation, with membership of more than
5 44,000 people. Our membership includes firemen and
6 teachers, construction workers and nurses, miners
7 and public employees, railroad workers, refinery
8 workers, prison guards, home health care workers and
9 many more occupations.

10 Each year at our annual convention, we bring
11 people from every corner of this state and
12 occupations. At our 2009 annual convention, our
13 diverse membership was presented with a resolution
14 calling for the timely and efficient permitting of
15 proposed energy projects, citing the value of such
16 project in the creation of quality jobs, the push of
17 wages in the area, meeting the energy demands and
18 supporting state and local tax bases and public
19 schools.

20 Even with the diverse background and multiple
21 perspectives that those delegate brought to our
22 convention, that resolution was adopted by unanimous

1 consent. In keeping with that policy, and in the
2 directions set by this resolution, I'm here today to
3 testify on behalf of 44,000 union members and their
4 families that stand in support of the construction
5 of the Keystone XL Pipeline. We support the
6 construction utilizing the best available technology
7 and construction standards for both the safety of
8 the workers and the environment.

9 The Montana State AFL CIO also supports the 57
10 additional considerations and protections that
11 exceed the requirements of regular permitting, and
12 we applaud TransCanada for agreeing to this
13 responsible approach to building the Keystone XL
14 Pipeline.

15 This project will provide around 800 quality
16 jobs in Montana for construction workers that will
17 support families. They'll pay health insurance, and
18 they'll put money into pensions, so that our
19 workers, at some point, can retire. In addition, it
20 will also provide a much needed infusion into the
21 tax base for several rural counties that will
22 benefit these communities in numerous and lasting

1 ways.

2 Utilizing oil produced in Canada provides an
3 unparalleled national security when compared to
4 utilizing oil from the volatile Middle East. I
5 heard earlier people making comments that there is
6 no guarantee that this oil will be used in the
7 United States. There's no guarantee that the oil
8 we're fighting for in the Middle East is going to be
9 used in the United States either.

10 The Keystone XL Pipeline Project offers an
11 extraordinary opportunity for hundreds of Montanans.
12 The Montana AFL CIO urges the approval of the
13 presidential permit to get this project underway
14 without delay. I also have a letter from the
15 President of the State Building Trades, John Rolber
16 (phonetic), in support of this. And I have over
17 1,000 post cards that were signed in support of this
18 at our Labor Day picnics and at job sites around the
19 state. Thank you
20 (Applause.)

21 MS. RICKARD: Secretary of State Clinton,
22 Mr. Steele, and the State Department, my name is Kim
23

1 Rickard. I am the business manager for Laborers'
2 International Union of North America, Local 1686 in
3 Montana, and I am representing 1,600 proud
4 construction and public sector members throughout
5 the state of Montana.

6 I want to thank you for giving me the
7 opportunity to speak on their behalf today regarding
8 the TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline Project. The
9 construction of the TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline
10 will employ 5 to 600 laborers in our union that are
11 from the state of Montana. Many of those members
12 are here with us tonight.

13 These jobs are desperately needed as several
14 thousand Montanans employed in construction have
15 lost jobs in the last four years. This project will
16 be a crucial path to allow men and women of Montana
17 to provide for their families, pay their bills and
18 support local businesses. This project will enable
19 these workers to be able to provide health insurance
20 coverage for themselves and their families in
21 addition to a living wage, which will in turn
22 support the small businesses within our communities

1 and create thousands of spinoff jobs. Montanans
2 will once again be able to provide for their
3 families and communities.

4 Building this pipeline will pump over 420
5 million dollars into our state's economy, including
6 over 285 million into the wallets of working
7 families throughout Montana. This is a fundamental
8 component to restoring what has been lost within our
9 communities of this great state of Montana. The
10 people opposing this pipeline don't understand the
11 facts, and they don't understand what it's like to
12 go months without a job, not knowing how you are
13 going to support your family.

14 Laborers' Local 1686 agrees that we need to
15 deal with climate change and expand the use of
16 renewable energy. But the reality is we still need
17 oil. We need it from nations we can trust, and we
18 need jobs. Our members believe in supporting a
19 reasonable and responsible concept to build the
20 pipeline, create jobs here and reduce our dependence
21 on oil from hostile regimes, instead of caving in to
22 extremists.

1 The on-ramp construction at Baker, Montana that
2 is supported by our Governor, Brian Sweitzer, will
3 allow 65,000 barrels of crude oil a day, from the
4 region, to be transported efficiently at a reduced
5 cost. And this will result in two million dollars
6 annually to property tax revenue to Fallon County.
7 Yet another long term positive effect to Montana's
8 working families.

9 If we don't build the pipeline, the oil will be
10 shipped to China and no jobs will be created here.
11 Do we help ourselves here in Montana and the United
12 States, or do we help China? We want to help
13 ourselves. The pipeline will give the U.S. access
14 to oil from one of our most trusted allies and
15 reduce our dependence on oil from countries that
16 wish to do us harm.

17 I would also like to bring to your attention
18 that the members of Laborers' Local 1686 are
19 Montanans and environmentalists too. We're glad the
20 government is conducting a thorough, exhaustive
21 review to make sure this project is safe. We live
22 here. We recreate here, and we want to continue to

1 raise our families here and leave our legacy. But
2 we need the jobs to do so.

3 Once this review is done, we are one step
4 closer to creating thousands of good jobs for
5 Montana's working families. Once again, I thank you
6 for the time to speak on behalf of the 1,600 members
7 of Laborers' Local 1686 living in Montana. We
8 strongly urge the United States Department of State
9 to issue the presidential permit to TransCanada to
10 build the Keystone XL Pipeline. Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 MR. COLE: That is going to be tough to
13 follow that.

14 (Laughter.)

15 My name is Mack Cole. I am the chairman of
16 Montanans' for Responsible Energy Development. And
17 it is a statewide organization that looks at various
18 programs, and this program here is one that we have
19 looked at for quite a while and feel that the
20 Keystone XL Project has many advantages. It has
21 many things that will be good for not just Montana,
22 but all of the states that it is going to go through

23

1 and the entire United States. And I have a number
2 of things here, but we have already heard those
3 before. I think some people want to take a break.

4 But I hope very much that you take the word
5 back, and I'm sure you will, and you're going to
6 hear other things that the XL pipeline can be put
7 in, environmentally safe. It can be put in to
8 benefit, and we won't be subject to oil from
9 wherever, countries we don't even know of.
10 Sometimes, they're here today and gone tomorrow.
11 But I just came back from Canada. I've been up
12 there in the area where a lot of this comes down,
13 and I think that it's something that really is good.
14 And I hope we can get it through fast. Thank you
15 very much.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. STEELE: Okay ladies and gentlemen, we
18 are going to take that break now. My watch has
19 about seven minutes after seven. I'd like to come
20 back and start about 7:15. We have a good
21 possibility of getting through the entire list of
22 registered speakers. So please, do come back to
23

1 speak, and we'll start with Number 51. Thank you.

2 (WHEREUPON, A break was taken.)

3 MR. STEELE: Justin, go ahead please.

4 MR. KRINGSTAD: Good evening, my name is
5 Justin Kringstad. I'm the executive director of the
6 North Dakota Pipeline Authority. I'm here on behalf
7 of North Dakota Governor, Jack Dalrymple, North
8 Dakota Attorney General, Wayne Stenehjem, and North
9 Dakota Agriculture Commissioner, Doug Goehring.
10 Those three make up the North Dakota Industrial
11 Commission, which oversees the North Dakota Pipeline
12 Authority.

13 Last week, the Industrial Commission signed a
14 support letter addressed to the Secretary of State,
15 Hilary Clinton, asking for support of this Keystone
16 XL Project.

17 The letter reads, "During the last five years,
18 North Dakota's petroleum industry has been on a fast
19 paced journey to develop the vast crude oil and
20 natural gas deposits held deep inside the Bakken and
21 Three Forks formations. Thanks to the Bakken and
22 Three Forks formations, the state of North Dakota is
23

1 currently the fourth largest producer of crude oil
2 in the United States.

3 North Dakota has been setting a new crude oil
4 production record almost every month, with crude oil
5 production now well over 400,000 barrels per day.
6 This surge of domestic oil activity is providing
7 Americans with high paying jobs and has allowed
8 North Dakota to enjoy the lowest unemployment rate
9 in the nation. Intensity of petroleum development
10 in Western North Dakota and Eastern Montana is
11 expected to continue to increase, with crude oil
12 production from the region, reaching potentially
13 800,000 barrels a day or more in the next five to
14 seven years.

15 A properly sized and economic transportation
16 system is essential for future expansion and
17 development in the U.S. Williston Basin.

18 The Keystone XL Pipeline Project is a major
19 step for increasing take away capacity of crude oil
20 production from the rapidly developing U.S.

21 Williston Basin. The project's interconnection near
22 Baker, Montana could provide in excess of 100,000

23

1 barrels per day of high quality light sweet domestic
2 crude oil, with direct access to major downstream
3 refining markets.

4 Understanding that pipelines are the safest,
5 cleanest and most economic means of transporting
6 crude oil, we are encouraged by TransCanada's
7 willingness to accept the Pipeline and Hazardous
8 Material Safety Administration's 57 special safety
9 conditions above and beyond the existing stringent
10 regulatory requirements.

11 It is important that this pipeline be
12 constructed and operated in a manner that will
13 protect the citizens of the United States.

14 Commenting exclusively on the Keystone XL Pipeline's
15 ability to enhance U.S. Williston Basin crude oil
16 transportation, the North Dakota Industrial
17 Commission, acting as the North Dakota Pipeline
18 Authority, respectfully recommends the timely and
19 favorable consideration of the Keystone XL Pipeline
20 Project in order to support the best interests of
21 our country." Signed, Governor, Jack Dalrymple,
22 Attorney General, Wayne Stenehjem and Agriculture

1 Commissioner Doug Goehring. Thank you.

2 (Applause,)

3 MR. STEELE: Mr. Ranger?

4 MR. RANGER: Mr. Steele, for the record my
5 name is Patrick Ranger. I live in Montana. I'm a
6 member of 1686, and I'm an international steward for
7 pipeline. That's all I do. I'm one of those out of
8 work pipeline workers.

9 I don't have a slick speech. I don't have
10 anything written in front of me. All I know is to
11 state it from the heart. I need this job. My
12 family needs this job. My brothers and sisters need
13 this job. We'd like to see it get off the ground.
14 We believe that anybody who doesn't think that
15 TransCanada isn't the toughest outfit to work for,
16 doesn't know TransCanada. They set high standards.
17 Those of us that have been in this industry almost
18 don't enjoy working for them, they are so strict.

19 This is going to be a good project for the
20 state. I believe it's going to be great for the
21 security of the nation. I don't think it's going to
22 solve either problem. I don't think we're going to

23

1 solve our economy here tonight in this conversation.
2 I don't think we're going to solve the security of
3 the nation. But it's steps that we need to take. I
4 think we need to take them now, and I hope when you
5 get back to Washington D.C., you ask Mrs. Clinton to
6 take it under consideration and have them sign off
7 on this thing. Thank you

8 (Applause.)

9 MR. STEELE: Okay, Mr. Zortman?

10 MR. CORYELL: Coryell.

11 MR. STEELE: Coryell, okay.

12 MR. CORYELL: I didn't write that bad did
13 I?

14 MR. STEELE: Okay, is Walt Zortman here?

15 MR. ZORTMAN: Yes, sir.

16 MR. STEELE: I'm going to ask you to go
17 ahead, Mr. Zortman, and then Mr. Coryell, and then
18 Ms. Laura Hughes please. Please, go ahead.

19 MR. ZORTMAN: Thank you, Mr. Steele. Most
20 of the points that I would like to touch on have
21 already been reiterated. So, what I'd really like
22 to say is that pipeline work is very dangerous work,
23

1 and I work with a lot of the people that are here,
2 on pipeline work. I've worked for TransCanada for
3 the last two years as, well actually, they oversaw
4 the job, but I work for Price Gregory. And I want
5 to say that TransCanada is second to none in safety,
6 and I am a Teamster, and I represent Local 190 out
7 of Billings, Montana, and I'd be proud to work for
8 them again because they do not put up with any crap.
9 And I would like to see, I know this hearing is
10 about jobs; it's also about safety, and these people
11 need to go to work.

12 Everybody is leaving the small towns. They are
13 going to North Dakota to work. We need work in
14 Montana. Thank you for your time, sir.

15 (Applause)

16 MR. CORYELL: Mr. Steele, my name is Mike
17 Coryell, and I am the executive director of the Mile
18 City Area Economic Development Council, and I also
19 work with the Southeast Montana Development
20 Corporation, which represents or works with nine
21 counties in Southeastern Montana.

22 I'd just like to go on record representing our

23

1 council as being supportive of the passage of the
2 EIS because we believe it is in the best interest of
3 the United States. I also, personally, want to go
4 on record as supporting that.

5 We realize being Eastern Montana, which is
6 representative of a lot of rural America, we realize
7 the challenges that rural America has been faced
8 with. And the things that they have to go through,
9 just to sustain themselves in an environment where
10 there is less jobs, but there is little funding.

11 We believe that, in addition to the jobs that
12 the construction is going to create, in addition to
13 the jobs that are going to be created in the long
14 term, some of the key things that this is really
15 going to do is it's going to provide revenues for
16 these counties and these rural areas that have no
17 source of revenues. It can provide for them less
18 dependence on government grants and assistance.
19 They are going to be able to do their own thing, and
20 they won't have to look to our government for
21 handouts.

22 It's going to provide economic independence for
23

1 these communities and these people in the rural
2 areas. It's going to help that. And what it's
3 really going to do is it's going to provide
4 infrastructure development for communities that
5 right now are struggling to survive with what they
6 have. And they can't afford to repair what they
7 have, let alone build new or expand. So, this is
8 going to provide that opportunity.

9 And with that infrastructure development, it's
10 going to provide economic opportunities for business
11 development. And in that business development,
12 additional jobs are going to be created in these
13 rural areas. And it's going to provide these rural
14 areas with hope to continue to sustain, to grow and
15 possibly attract new business opportunities.

16 Now, I want to say I appreciate all of the,
17 both the pros and cons about the environmental
18 issues and what not. Without people to speak up
19 about environmental problems and some of the
20 concerns they have, we wouldn't have the good
21 environmental laws that we have in the state of
22 Montana right now. So I appreciate that. But I

23

1 also have a great deal of faith and trust in what
2 we, in Montana, have for environmental laws. I've
3 seen it work, and I know it can, and I trust that's
4 going to happen here. Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 MS. HUGHES: Mr. Steele, thank you for
7 coming and welcome to Big Sky Country. My name is
8 Laura Hughes for the record. I am the Laborers'
9 International Union of North America's International
10 Pipeline representative. And I came from Montana.
11 I was raised in Montana, and I come from the
12 pipeline industry.

13 With all due respect to Ms. Kidder, may I set a
14 few records straight. There will be American
15 workers on this job. We have signed a project labor
16 agreement with our contractors and TransCanada for
17 this project. We will employ local people. We will
18 employ experienced and skilled people, and we will
19 make sure that this pipe is put into the ground with
20 every due respect it deserves.

21 This pipeline agreement I take care of on a
22 daily basis. I understand its mechanics. I know

23

1 how it works. We will be Americans putting this
2 pipe into the ground when it hits the American
3 border.

4 I do believe that is in the best interest of
5 this country, particularly in these regions where we
6 have such terrible employment opportunities. These
7 are good paying jobs.

8 These orange shirts are Montana laborers. We
9 work with these best practices international
10 pipeline contractors to provide experienced,
11 qualified Montana laborers, who are ready, willing
12 and able to produce a lead standard high quality
13 product that puts Montanans back to work.

14 The Keystone will unlock good family supporting
15 jobs when families are losing their homes and
16 desperately seeking employment. The reasonable
17 thing is to build a pipeline, create jobs, and
18 reduce our dependence on oil from hostile regimes,
19 instead of caving to fringe extremists and seeing
20 that oil go to China. We need jobs. Thank you,
21 sir.

22 (Applause.)

23

1 MR. STEELE: Ms. Mazza.

2 MS. MAZZA: Good evening, Mr. Steele. I'm
3 Kimberly Mazza, public affairs specialist for Devon
4 Energy. And I am here representing many of our
5 Montana employees that wanted me to come on their
6 behalf and present the letters in support of the
7 Keystone XL Pipeline.

8 First of all, let me just share with you a few
9 thoughts our employees mentioned in their letters:

10 "Perhaps most importantly is the estimated 5
11 billion in property taxes that KXL will generate
12 over the life of the project. These are funds that
13 can be invested in our local schools, help build
14 roads, and improve them and build new roads, and
15 also help build new community hospitals."

16 "In my opinion, this alone establishes KXL as
17 meeting the national interest requirement. And at a
18 time like this, when we all know someone who is out
19 of work and looking for employment, it can not be
20 questioned that the jobs creation that would develop
21 because of KXL meets the national interest
22 requirement. KXL would create 20,000 family

23

1 supporting jobs, and it can not be ignored that KXL
2 will lead to more than 585 million dollars in state
3 and local taxes. Money that can help balance state
4 and local budgets without placing this
5 responsibility on already overburdened taxpayers."

6 "Not only is the project shovel ready, but it
7 required zero government funding. Just the approval
8 to put people to work."

9 These are just a few of the thoughts our
10 employees put forward about this project, and I am
11 happy to share them with you tonight. Thank you
12 very much for hosting this meeting, and thank you
13 for your time. And here's the letters.

14 (Applause.)

15 MR. SMELTZER: Good evening, Mr. Steele.
16 My name is Warren Smeltzer, and I'm the training
17 director for the Laborers' AGC Apprenticeship
18 Training and Work Preparedness Trust of Montana.
19 This is a training trust for the Liuna Local 1686,
20 and the 1,600 members they represent in the
21 construction and public sector industries throughout
22 Montana.

23

1 Thank you for the opportunity to provide
2 testimony on the Keystone XL Pipeline Project, and
3 as a Montana sportsman, thank you for performing an
4 extensive review of this project.

5 Laborers' AGC Training of Montana strongly
6 supports Keystone XL Project, and would ask the State
7 Department to expedite its approval for numerous
8 reasons.

9 This project would provide a tremendous and
10 needed boost to the U.S. construction industry by
11 generating around 13,000 high quality jobs at a time
12 when the industry is facing 14 percent unemployment.

13 These are the types of jobs that allow men and
14 women to purchase new homes, new cars, pickups.

15 These are the kinds of jobs that it takes to get
16 this economy moving again.

17 In addition to the pipeline construction jobs,
18 this project will produce jobs in related industry.
19 One study predicts over 100,000 new spinoff jobs
20 associated with the design, manufacture, operation
21 and maintenance of this pipeline. Another study
22 says that U.S. employment associated with the oil
23

1 sands could grow to 465,000 jobs by the year 2035.

2 While the economic benefits are many, they
3 would mean little if we do not do this pipeline
4 safely. One of Liuna Training Funds' priorities is
5 to maintain pipeline safety by ensuring it provides
6 a qualified workforce for operators and contractors
7 to comply with the Federal Pipeline Safety
8 Regulations. The pipeline course teaches
9 participants the safety procedures and work
10 practices required to work on pipeline construction
11 projects.

12 All phases of pipeline construction are
13 addressed, including front end work, pipe handling,
14 pipe coating and back end work. In addition to the
15 pipeline safety course, Liuna Training has developed
16 an operator qualification course that is designed to
17 certify participants as qualified evaluators for
18 operator qualification testing and evaluation of
19 specific tasks performed by pipeline workers.

20 Based upon the U.S. Department of
21 Transportation pipeline operator qualification
22 requirements, the course prepares workers to qualify
23

1 in the 14 covered tasks associated with pipeline
2 work.

3 In short, our members are trained to recognize
4 abnormal conditions and take the proper corrective
5 action to mitigate these hazards.

6 I've worked for several pipeline contractors on
7 several different projects, and much like some of
8 the farmers and ranchers, some of them have been
9 able to make chicken soup out of chicken shit. But
10 I've never seen one that could do a spread with only
11 100 people.

12 Once again, I thank you for the opportunity to
13 provide testimony today, and on behalf of the
14 Montana working men and women, I urge you to approve
15 this project. Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. STEELE: Julia Page, please go ahead.
18 Before you do, let me call, after Ms. Page, I would
19 like to call Bill McChesney please, Henry Cellmer
20 and Jim Atchison, please.

21 MS. PAGE: For the record, my name is
22 Julia Page. I live in Gardiner, Montana. I'm on

23

1 the Board of the Western Organization of Resource
2 Councils, which is known as WORC, and I'm speaking
3 today on behalf of WORC and our approximately 10,000
4 members in local chapters throughout seven western
5 states: Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado,
6 North and South Dakota. We have many members who
7 live along the pipeline route and will be directly
8 affected by the decisions on this pipeline. We also
9 have members who live along the Keystone 1 route,
10 and have suffered oil spills from that facility.

11 We believe the Keystone XL Pipeline as proposed
12 is not ready for approval. The standard we are
13 meant to address is whether or not this is in the
14 national interest. We don't believe the national
15 interest is served by shipping tar sands oil from
16 Canada across hundreds of miles of productive
17 farmland and ranch land in Montana, South Dakota and
18 Nebraska and then on to the Gulf Coast without
19 adequate safeguards.

20 TransCanada's Keystone 1 Pipeline has suffered
21 14 spills and leaks in a little over a year of
22 operation. It was so bad that the U.S. regulators

1 shut it down for a few days this spring. It is
2 reasonable to expect that the Keystone XL Pipeline
3 will also leak and spill crude on the ground or
4 shoot it 60 feet in the air, as happened with
5 Keystone 1.

6 Why has TransCanada not been required to write
7 an emergency response plan? One will surely be
8 needed and the public has a right to review it
9 before any permit is granted.

10 If the company's early request for a variance
11 on pipeline thickness and pressure is any
12 indication, the company's interest is in building
13 the least expensive line it can. The company will
14 worry about the consequences of a spill later.

15 I spent 30 years running a river recreation
16 business on the Yellowstone River. I have seen
17 firsthand a river channel can change during high
18 flows. Rivers and even streams in flood are
19 immensely powerful and willful. The Silvertip
20 Pipeline break on the Yellowstone River this spring
21 is an example of the calamitous consequences for
22 riparian areas and adjacent landowners when a

1 pipeline ruptures.

2 Here in Montana, we must require that if a
3 person's water is contaminated or otherwise lost
4 because of the pipeline, that the company pay full
5 costs of reestablishing a permanent, sufficient,
6 clean water supply and cleaning any impacted soils.

7 It is not in the national interest to put our
8 water resources at risk. The burden for spills and
9 other mishaps from this line fall on the people who
10 are crossed by this line and by those who depend on
11 clean water from the surface as well as aquifers
12 below the line.

13 The benefit accrues to TransCanada and to the
14 companies producing oil that will be shipped. Does
15 that imbalance demonstrate the national interest?
16 Is it okay to put the little guys at risk? Run over
17 the little guys with the big oil company or the big
18 pipeline company? That should not be how we assess
19 and arrive at what is in the national interest.

20 TransCanada must be held to a much higher
21 standard than what they have presented thus far,
22 before this pipeline can be considered in the

23

1 national interest and given a permit.

2 The EIS makes it clear that the permanent
3 pipeline jobs are very few and that the construction
4 jobs will mostly be held by crews from other places.
5 Once this line is operational, only the risks, not
6 the jobs will remain.

7 Agriculture has, for many generations, been the
8 mainstay of the economies in these rural areas where
9 the pipeline will pass. It can remain that
10 mainstay, and those jobs will be supported as long
11 as we protect clean water, productive land and a
12 livable climate.

13 This pipeline is not in the national interest
14 until its risks are much better addressed and
15 mitigated. Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 REP. MCCHESENEY: Thank you. I'd like to
18 express my sincere appreciation for your being here
19 and looking very alert for what's been a long day.
20 And I'd like to thank you for what is a very
21 American opportunity for all of us to present our
22 views. I think that's why this is one of the

23

1 greatest countries in the world.

2 For the record, I'm State Representative, Bill
3 McChesney. I represent House District 40 in Miles
4 City. I currently serve on the House Appropriations
5 and on Water Policy Committees, and I'm also a
6 member of the Environmental Quality Counsel.

7 I don't think there's a person in this room
8 that isn't concerned with preserving and protecting
9 Montana's environment. And I'm sure that there
10 aren't very many who aren't as equally concerned
11 with improving Montana's and America's economic
12 vitality.

13 I don't believe that those goals are
14 contradicting nor in opposition to one another. I
15 believe we can have the best of both worlds, and the
16 construction of the TransCanada Keystone Pipeline
17 presents a significant opportunity to evidence that.

18 And of equal importance, I think, and it's been
19 expressed before, what the construction of this
20 pipeline will do, will provide another step in
21 helping America wean from its unhealthy dependence
22 on overseas oil, and I think that's absolutely

23

1 vital.

2 Additionally, construction of this pipeline, in
3 the short term and the long term, will provide
4 significant important revenue and increased funding
5 for vital public services, such as education and
6 infrastructure improvements to counties and cities,
7 as well as providing short term and long term
8 employment for those involved in the pipeline.

9 Also of equal if not greater importance to the
10 state of Montana, and it hasn't been mentioned much,
11 is the construction of the on-ramp in Baker, which
12 was negotiated by Governor Sweitzer. This, as Mr.
13 Gault mentioned, this will make Montana's oil
14 significantly more competitive than it is now, by
15 reducing transportation costs. It will also
16 increase, significantly, the safety of transporting
17 that oil. What this will result in is, I believe,
18 we will see significant increases in oil exploration
19 and production in both Eastern Montana and
20 Northcentral Montana, with the accompanying jobs and
21 revenue increases that will come with that. So,
22 it's going to be of vital importance to the state of

23

1 Montana economically.

2 I've also heard a lot of concerns here about
3 clean and green. And I think we'd all be foolish to
4 say that clean and green and our transition to clean
5 and green is not vital to the future of the United
6 States of America. But it's going to be a
7 transition. We're not going to switch from one to
8 the other overnight. It's going to take a
9 significant economic investment and a significant
10 amount of time to re-engineer those millions of
11 products that are based on petroleum. It's also
12 going to take a significant amount of time for
13 American industry and transportation to retool, to
14 begin to use clean and green. This pipeline is
15 going to be vital in that transition period as we go
16 from our dependency on oil to those things that are
17 clean and green.

18 And in closing, again I want to thank you for
19 the opportunity to be here. I want to offer my
20 strong support for the construction of the
21 TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, and I believe that
22 the construction of this pipeline will help keep
23

1 America the greatest country on earth and Montana

2 the last, best place. Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 MR. CELLMER: For the record, I'm Henry

5 Cellmer, business manager for the Plumbers and

6 Pipefitters Local 30. We represent 350 members in

7 Eastern Montana. Having been born just 90 miles

8 north of Glendive, Montana, I've had the opportunity

9 to see just how small communities struggled to keep

10 their schools open.

11 While performing service work in the plumbing

12 and pipefitting industry in Northeast Montana, I've

13 had to work with schools, counties, city councils,

14 hospitals and nursing homes. My finding is that

15 money is always tight. The tension can be felt when

16 one explains the necessity to replace a boiler or

17 outdated plumbing that needs to be brought up to

18 code.

19 The benefits of the Keystone Pipeline Project

20 would make these decisions much easier. I believe

21 that everyone agrees that the Keystone XL Project

22 needs to be the safest built pipeline to date.

23

1 Studies show that pipelines are, in fact, the safest
2 means of transporting any product.

3 Moving to the national level, I would ask how
4 anyone opposing the Keystone XL could claim that
5 they have our national security in their best
6 interest? Buying crude oil from Canada makes much
7 more sense than purchasing from some country who
8 certainly may not have America's security in its
9 best interest.

10 Canada is going to develop the oil sands. This
11 crude oil will be refined either here in the United
12 States or in China. How could there be any option
13 therefore to not build the Keystone XL? Thank you.
14 (Applause.)

15 MR. ATCHISON: Mr. Steele, thank you for
16 the opportunity before you tonight, and for the
17 record my name is Jim Atchison. I'm the executive
18 director of Southeastern Montana Development
19 Corporation. We are a regional nonprofit economic
20 development group that does whatever we can to
21 create jobs, save jobs and, of course, create
22 economic activity within the four counties of
23

1 Custer, Rosebud, Puddle River and Treasure.

2 For the record, we strongly support the
3 Keystone XL Pipeline. It's about jobs in rural
4 Montana. It's, of course, increasing the economic
5 base in Eastern Montana, and, of course, it's about
6 energy independence for our country. We encourage a
7 quick approval of the presidential permit, and as an
8 added note, I work very closely with the Rosebud
9 County Commissioners who also support this project.

10 In closing, I would like to thank you for
11 coming out to Big Sky Country and, of course,
12 listening to our comments. Thank you.

13 (Applause.)

14 MR. STEELE: I'd like to call please Mr.
15 Don Brown, Ms. Connie Keogh, Mr. Carl Harmon, and
16 Ms. Sandra Abraham please.

17 MR. BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Steele. My
18 name is Don Brown. I'm a landowner in Northern
19 McCone County. And what I'd like to do, I have
20 submitted a letter to the media, letter to the
21 editor, and I would like to read that at this time.
22 It hasn't been published yet and maybe won't be, I'm

23

1 not sure. My grammar isn't the best here, but okay.

2 "Dear Editor, Secretary of State, Hillary
3 Clinton, and President Barack Obama have a decision
4 to make soon, whether TransCanada's Keystone XL
5 Pipeline is in the national interest. As a
6 landowner along the route who has much to lose when
7 this pipeline comes through, I hope our decision
8 makers are absolutely clear about whether this
9 pipeline is in the national interest when it is
10 permitted. But I think there are questions that
11 still haven't been answered.

12 Since TransCanada is a foreign corporation, is
13 this pipeline in the national interest? Since the
14 pipeline goes to a port on the Gulf Coast and they
15 already have a pipeline going to the refinery in
16 Illinois, Keystone 1 Pipeline, that would lend me to
17 believe they plan on exporting this product carried
18 on the Keystone XL. Is that in the national
19 interest?

20 The tar sands, which Keystone XL is going to be
21 carrying is especially corrosive and abrasive. The
22 Keystone 1 Pipeline has already had 14 leaks in

23

1 about a year of operation. Is that in the national
2 interest?

3 Should we just be a nation where the pipe
4 crosses, potentially with leaks, en route from one
5 foreign country to another? Is that in our national
6 interest?" Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 MS. KEOGH: Good evening, my name is
9 Connie Keogh, K-E-O-G-H, and I'm just going to
10 briefly hit a couple points because we are all
11 getting very tired. Thank you very much for
12 allowing us this time.

13 I grew up in the foothills of the Beartooth
14 Mountains, and I'm a native Montanan. My great
15 grandparents homesteaded here, and I have two sons
16 who are in their 20s, and hope to live in Montana
17 for the rest of their lives. So, I have a lot of
18 pride about the State of Montana, and I have a
19 strong interest in what happens to our future.

20 So for tonight, I want it to be public record
21 that I do not believe that the Keystone XL Pipeline
22 is in the public interest. And I was going to talk

23

1 briefly about the whole controversy about jobs. We
2 seem to have this conflicting numbers on whether or
3 not this will provide jobs for locals.

4 My hope is moving forward that we can invest in
5 renewable energy projects and energy efficiency
6 projects that can provide jobs for my sons and all
7 of the other Montanans, so that there is a
8 sustainable long term work force for them.

9 I just want to restate that I want to go on
10 record as being opposed to this, and I want us to
11 look very carefully at the safety regulations and
12 also at the emergency response plan. Thank you very
13 much.

14 (Applause.)

15 MR. STEELE: Mr. Herman.

16 MR. HARMON: My name is Carl Harmon; this
17 is going to be short. I speak regarding humanity.
18 Tar sands, the filthiest oil in the world. I say no
19 on tar sand and no pipeline. Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 MS. ABRAHAM: Good evening, for the record
22 my name is Sandra Abraham. I currently live in

23

1 Billings, Montana. I grew up on a farm that has now
2 been in my family for 125 years. On this farm, I
3 learned from my mother the importance of
4 conservation, and I learned from my father the value
5 of land.

6 I am here to oppose granting a permit for the
7 Keystone XL Pipeline. I think many people are under
8 the impression that the oil from the tar sands is
9 going to be used by Americans, and I think we need
10 to consider a few things before we jump to that
11 conclusion.

12 I'd ask people to please consider this.
13 TransCanada already has a pipeline to carry tar
14 sands to an inland refinery, which is Keystone 1
15 that goes to Illinois. The fact that the end point
16 of the Keystone XL Pipeline is on the Gulf Coast
17 leads us to the logical conclusion that this
18 pipeline is for tar sands export. To further this
19 point, please consider that the Gulf Coast refiners
20 at the end of the pipelines route are focused on
21 expanding exports, and the crude Keystone XL
22 delivers enhances their capacity to do so.

23

1 Also Valero, the top beneficiary of Keystone XL
2 Pipeline has recently detailed an explicit export
3 strategy to its investors. The nation's top refiner
4 has locked in at least 20 percent of the pipeline's
5 capacity, and because it's refinery in Port Arthur,
6 Texas is within a foreign trade zone, this company
7 will accomplish its export strategy tax free.

8 Finally, all these facts point to the tar sands
9 being exported. This does not make us energy secure
10 and is not in America's best interest. I thank you
11 for your time.

12 (Applause.)

13 MR. STEELE: Mr. Cashell?

14 MR. CASHELL: Chuck Cashell.

15 MR. STEELE: Okay, I would also like to
16 call please Mr. Vernon Watson, Mr. Mike Johnson and
17 Ms. Carol Brown. Pleas go ahead Mr. Cashell.

18 MR. CASHELL: Thank you Mr. Steele for
19 being here today. My name is Chuck Cashell, and I'm
20 a landowner, and I live in Rosebud County. I am
21 here today to support the Keystone XL Pipeline.

22 I am also the chief executive officer and the
23

1 business manager for the International Union of
2 Operating Engineers, Local 400, here in Montana.
3 And I represent more than 1,500 members that live
4 and work here in our state, many of whom will work
5 on this pipeline, who are here tonight.

6 This project is essential for jobs. This
7 project will go a long way in putting equipment
8 operators, pipe fitters and laborers and truck
9 drivers to work in our state. The on-ramp at Baker
10 will allow Montana oil to be added to the pipeline,
11 creating even more jobs. All Montana's resources,
12 coal, wind, geothermal and oil need to be developed
13 to free us of dependence and give us independence.

14 After three years in the permitting process,
15 it's time to approve this project and allow
16 construction contractors to hire thousands of our
17 friends and neighbors to go to work. The jobs
18 created will be good jobs, high paying jobs, jobs
19 with benefits, not low wage jobs. These are exactly
20 the kinds of private investments that we need to get
21 this economy moving again.

22 The Keystone XL Project is in the national
23

1 interest of this country. Please approve the
2 presidential permit right away. And I appreciate
3 the State Department for holding this meeting today.
4 Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 MR. WATSON: Thank you, Mr. Steele, for
7 the time you have allowed us to talk. I'm Vern
8 Watson, local union pipefitter out of Billings
9 Montana.

10 Employment is at an all time low, and I agree
11 that we, as a nation, need a major clean energy
12 bill. But the House and the Senate seem to be stuck
13 in the sandbox, playing like five year olds while
14 our nation goes to the dogs. I support the Keystone
15 Pipeline Project for two reasons: One, to put
16 Americans back to work in a time of record
17 unemployment. And two, we, as a nation, need to
18 quit depending on everyone else and starting
19 bringing jobs and technology back to the American
20 people.

21 If we allow this to fail, we will be buying the
22 oil back from another nation at twice the price, at

23

1 least. If the kids keep playing in the sandbox, we
2 all are going to starve to death. Put us back to
3 work. Thank you.

4 (Applause.)

5 MR. STEELE: Mr. Johnson.

6 MR. JOHNSON: Mike Johnson. Thank you for
7 coming. I'm a business agent for Local 400 of the
8 Operating Engineers, and I had a speech all written
9 out, but it is just going to iterate and reiterate
10 what's already been said. I just wanted to say that
11 this is going to employ a lot of operators in the
12 state of Montana, and a lot of them will be local
13 people.

14 And I also wanted to say that those 14 leaks
15 were in pipe fittings and Keystone did learn a
16 lesson. And they are going to be union pipefitters
17 doing those stations now, instead of nonunion. And
18 I speak out in favor of this pipeline. Thank you.

19 (Applause.)

20 MR. STEELE: Ms. Brown.

21 MS. BROWN: My name is Carol Brown, I'm
22 from Fort Peck, Montana. I'm a member of Northern

23

1 Plains Resource Council, a grassroots conservation
2 and family farm organization that organizes Montana
3 citizens to protect our water quality, family farms
4 and ranches and unique quality of life. I speak on
5 behalf of Northern Plains Resource Council.

6 The Keystone XL Pipeline is not in the national
7 interest. It is for private use and will not
8 generate any public benefit. Additionally,
9 TransCanada has yet to release an emergency response
10 plan for the proposed pipeline. The emergency
11 personnel, largely volunteers, and the potentially
12 affected property owners and others who live near
13 the pipeline deserve an opportunity to comment on
14 TransCanada's emergency response plan prior to
15 approval.

16 Another concern we have is in regards to
17 pipeline thickness. The final environmental impact
18 statement does not analyze the risks or potential
19 spills of alternative thickness of pipes, most
20 notably, the scenario of allowing a higher pressure
21 and thinner pipe in low consequence areas, as
22 originally requested by TransCanada.

1 Landowners and neighbors to the pipeline need
2 to know what oversight process exists to verify that
3 TransCanada is using the pipe thickness they claim
4 to be using? Also TransCanada has a particularly
5 bad record. We recognize that pipelines are not
6 bad, and, in fact, we need pipelines. So, it is
7 fair that our nation is considering approval of this
8 one. But the fact is that this particular company
9 has such a bad track record makes it the wrong one
10 for the job. The company's resume includes 14 leaks
11 on its other tar sands pipeline in only about a year
12 of operation, and a major explosion on its brand new
13 natural gas pipeline, the Bison. It would be one
14 thing if this pipeline was being proposed by a
15 company that has a good track record, but this one
16 doesn't.

17 This particular route is also questionable, as
18 it is not needed and threatens the Ogallala Aquifer.
19 TransCanada could still get their oil to Texas just
20 by the Kushing, Oklahoma to Port Arthur, Texas
21 Extension from Keystone 1. They do not need to
22 build the Steel City Segment from Hardesty, Alberta
23

1 through Montana, South Dakota, Nebraska to Kushing,
2 Oklahoma. The fact that the route goes through the
3 Ogallala Aquifer is reason enough not to build this
4 segment.

5 Last, but not least, the EPA is that agency
6 best equipped to make a fair and accurate assessment
7 of this project. An article from the Washington
8 Post, on September 22nd, 2011, revealed that
9 TransCanada has enjoyed too cozy a relationship with
10 the State Department through personnel who formerly
11 worked for Hillary Clinton and other relationships.

12 Thank you for taking our comments into
13 consideration for the national interest
14 determination for the Keystone XL Pipeline.
15 (Applause.)

16 MR. STEELE: Mr. Miller. Before you
17 start, I would like also to call Luke Ward and Rion
18 Miles and Mr. Russ Doty.

19 MR. MILLER: Good evening. My name is
20 Kevin Miller. I reside in Casper, Wyoming. I'm a
21 special pipeline representative with the
22 International Union of Operating Engineers. My job
23

1 is to deal with a lot of nonunion contractors and
2 work with them to sign. But more importantly at
3 this point, my job is to represent the thousands and
4 thousands of operating engineers that are
5 specialized in the construction of the oil and gas
6 pipeline industry.

7 I'm here urging the State Department today to
8 approve a presidential permit for the construction
9 of TransCanada's Keystone XL Project. With jobs,
10 like the Keystone XL, come good wages, benefits for
11 the working folks and their families. In return,
12 they share that bounty with the communities in which
13 they are residing during the life of those projects.

14 There are a few misstated facts, and I call
15 them facts because that's the way they seem to be
16 getting put. Without a doubt, Americans are going
17 to build this project. There is no two ways about
18 it. TransCanada chose to sign a project labor
19 agreement with the best in this industry the world
20 has to offer. They could have gone and done a
21 circus act, but they know that Americans, they can
22 appreciate it. Americans keep companies like this

1 on their toes to make sure that things are done
2 well.

3 The most qualified American work force will
4 construct this pipeline.

5 Two, the most qualified American contractors
6 are going to build this son of a gun.

7 Number three, at least 50 percent of the
8 manpower needed from an operation engineer's
9 standpoint will derive from the local union. What
10 does that mean? Montanans are going to go to work.
11 That's plain and clear. This is our industry. We
12 know it, and that's just how it goes. Anybody
13 outside this industry that has not been in it, don't
14 speculate.

15 Take into consideration how many different
16 businesses are going to benefit from projects like
17 this. Many of them are small businesses too: the
18 hotels, RV campgrounds, barber shops, grocery
19 markets, dollar stores. How about the thrift shops?
20 The restrants, diners, coffee houses, even the
21 antique and variety stores. Automotive service,
22 construction equipment rental. How about the local
23

1 doctors and healthcare facilities? Hardware stores,
2 gas stations and thank God, the portapotty
3 companies.

4 The local public utilities, it's kind of been
5 talked about a lot. They are going to generate a
6 lot of money. When their people make good money,
7 they spend money. That's how the whole thing works,
8 in case some people didn't get that one.

9 Taxes. Montana doesn't see a monster amount of
10 pipelines, especially this size. Some day, I think
11 it will happen. But they are going to see serious
12 revenue, not just from TransCanada, but from the
13 contractors. If you want to know some time, go talk
14 to our contractors that build and work up here in
15 Montana at any given time, and they'll tell you
16 about the tax burden that's laid on them.

17 And as far as TransCanada, four years in the
18 making, them trying to be cheap on this project,
19 that's the furthest from the truth.

20 How about potential hunting dollars coming in
21 from potential hunting and fishing license sales?
22 Take that money and in return, help wildlife and
23

1 conservation projects for Montana.

2 To sum it up, put the politics and bleeding
3 heart syndrome aside. Let's work for what's best
4 for America. Get the construction hands back to
5 work. Get businesses growing again. Fixing our
6 economy has got to start somewhere. Why not with
7 the Keystone XL Project? Thank you.

8 (Applause.)

9 MR. WARD: My name is Luke Ward. I'm a
10 professor at Rocky Mountain College in Billings,
11 Montana. I'm here today just to say that I oppose
12 this pipeline. Mainly because, despite these
13 seductive, I think, projections, is the word I would
14 use about jobs, and promises about greater energy
15 security, I don't believe that this pipeline is in
16 our national interests.

17 The first issue that I would like to raise is
18 that I don't accept this characterization of tar
19 sands as conflict free or efficient source of
20 energy. In fact, the production of tar sands is
21 dirty and highly inefficient, from an energy and a
22 water standpoint. It requires tremendous amounts of

23

1 energy inputs, water inputs, and generates huge
2 quantities of waste at the source.

3 I encourage everyone here and the folks in
4 charge of conducting the environmental impact
5 statement to just do a Google search of images and
6 videos, any sort of media you can on the Athabasca
7 River Watershed, the source of this tar sands oil.
8 You can hear accounts of the lives of the Cree First
9 Nations people, how their lives have been
10 transformed by their exposure to harmful chemicals
11 in the water - it's a byproduct of the tar sands
12 production. - and in the wildlife they have
13 traditionally consumed.

14 I think it's important to ask ourselves if
15 participating in this kind of irreversible
16 environmental degradation and contributing to this
17 pattern of human suffering is in our national
18 interest, as we consider whether to approve this
19 pipeline.

20 This is an important question to ask, not only
21 because of what's going on currently, because the
22 construction of the XL Pipeline will expand the

23

1 scale and intensity of operations and environmental
2 transformation and human suffering at the source.
3 In other words, I think the environmental impacts
4 should be considered on a geographical scale that's
5 a little bit broader than just the path of this
6 pipeline.

7 On that note, if in fact the oil of this
8 pipeline is delivered, delivers to the Gulf Coast
9 refinery is used to fuel American cars and labor and
10 hopefully research and development of wind and other
11 energy sources, which I hope it is used for that - I
12 don't believe that it will be, but that would be
13 great if it was - then we have to consider the
14 emissions that these uses generate in our assessment
15 of the environmental impacts.

16 As we all know, we've heard the litany of
17 stories about global warming and greenhouse gases,
18 emissions of CO2 and other greenhouse gases make
19 climate patterns less predictable. This increases
20 the duration and intensity of extreme weather
21 related threats that affect all of us here in
22 Montana and all over the world: fires, storms and
23

1 floods.

2 Once again, with the XL Pipeline, we as
3 Americans are given an incentive to continue our
4 unsustainable use of fossil fuels, which contributes
5 to and produces these unfortunate patterns. I do
6 not believe it is in the national interest to
7 participate in a project that contributes to ongoing
8 patterns of climate change.

9 I believe that stopping the XL Pipeline or, at
10 least, revisiting the environmental impact
11 statements and addressing these issues related to
12 emissions and are related to environmental
13 transformation at the source of tar sands, sends a
14 message that is important, that is in the national
15 interest. And that message is that America is open
16 for business, but it's energy business that is
17 clean, just and sustainable. Thank you.

18 (Applause.)

19 MR. STEELE: Mr. Miles.

20 MR. MILES: My name is Rion Miles. Thank
21 you, first off, Mr. Steele for this opportunity to
22 speak. First off, I am a native Montanan. I did

23

1 not inherit a farm from any of my relatives who
2 preceded me. I bought my properties I own in
3 Montana with the wages I earned. The second thing I
4 wanted to point out is I am a heavy equipment
5 operator for all of my adult life, working in the
6 pipeline construction industry. Started as far back
7 as the Trans Alaska Pipeline in the mid 70's.

8 I have had an opportunity to work three
9 TransCanada projects in the last three years. I
10 have a lot of references to go back and compare
11 TransCanada, as far as other clients who built
12 pipelines in the Northwest United States especially.
13 And I have to say when it comes to environmental and
14 safety compliance issues, these guys are head and
15 shoulders above anybody I've ever seen come before
16 them. Virtually unheard of stuff. Strict, to the
17 point and they enforce their, like I say, their
18 environmental and safety issues.

19 One of the things you ask when everybody comes
20 up here was to state their name and who they
21 represented. Anybody I might represent has been
22 pretty well represented by anybody who has been up

1 here ahead of me. So, maybe I might represent the
2 9.7 percent or whatever that number is, the 9.7
3 percent of the unemployed Montanans that are out
4 here right now. And I'd like to resound,
5 representing those people, I'd like to resound the
6 statement and add to it just a little bit.

7 We don't need another unemployment insurance
8 extension; we need jobs. And we'd appreciate and we
9 would hope to see the permit is pushed through in a
10 most expeditious manner. Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 MR. DOTY: Thank you, Mr. Steele. I hope
13 you have a chance to commit to more than this, the
14 strong feelings that most Montanans from both sides
15 have while you are here. My name is Russ Doty. I
16 am CEO and General Counsel of New World Wind Power.
17 We don't have any projects going right now, but
18 we're committed to do all of our projects with the
19 help of union labor. And I am here to speak about
20 the exact issue of national security.

21 It turns out that there are more than just a
22 few organizations that are concerned with national

1 security that have issued reports warning the
2 threats to U.S. national security posed by climate
3 change. They include the Central Intelligence
4 Agency, the National Intelligence Council, the
5 Council on Foreign Relations, the Center for Naval
6 Analysis and the Institute for Strategic Studies.
7 In addition, there was a National Intelligence
8 Council study for the Congress assessing how climate
9 change could threaten U.S. security in the next 20
10 years, by creating political instability, mass
11 movements of refugees, terrorism or conflicts over
12 water and other resources in specific countries.

13 So that's one of the reasons why the
14 administration has set a goal of reducing carbon
15 emissions and reducing oil consumption by 50 percent
16 by 2030. The administration's goals also reduce oil
17 consumption by 80 percent by 2050. The same with
18 carbon.

19 Well, let's see if we can do that. Right now,
20 we've got a situation some folks have mentioned
21 about what renewable energy can do. Right now in
22 Montana, we will be producing more than 20 percent

1 of our energy, our electric utilities from wind
2 alone if we weren't exporting a great amount of it.
3 Right now, we're using about eight percent.

4 New figures from the Nonprofit Solar Foundation
5 show that the number of workers in America's solar
6 industry has more than doubled, going from 46,000
7 workers in 2009 to more than 100,000 today. So, it
8 can be done. And also there is a report out by
9 Pacific Gas and Electric that they are going to be
10 ready to do 1 million electric vehicles by 2020,
11 with regard to meeting the renewable energy from
12 that regard.

13 Also I call your attention to the State
14 Department's own climate change adaptation policy,
15 which states as highlighted in the department's
16 Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review, "Rapid
17 and effective action is needed to address the
18 challenge of climate change, including action to
19 prepare for and adapt to its impacts." So your own
20 department would assign a high reason for curbing
21 climate emissions.

22 As you probably heard here today and elsewhere
23

1 in your presentations, one of our premium scientists
2 indicates that if we don't leave the tar sands in
3 the ground, we're going to be increasing the amount
4 of CO2 in the environment by 200 parts per million.
5 That's an increase of - - not quite double, but
6 it's getting close.

7 I realize my time has run out, but I would like
8 to just bring one thing to you. And that is that
9 there are also problems that result, you've heard a
10 lot about the benefits. But one of the problems
11 with climate change is that we're going to be
12 creating 80 million new cases of Malaria a year if
13 we continue down our path. And I don't think it's
14 in the United States' best interest or national
15 interest to have that kind of blood on our hands.
16 And so, I would hope that rather than help us create
17 a future by setting our own house on fire, that you
18 would oppose this pipeline.

19 I'm old enough to remember when we kept the
20 National Strategic Oil Reserve in the ground, which
21 turns out to have been a pretty good move because we
22 can use it now. Thank you.

1 (Applause.)

2 MR. STEELE: I'd like to call please, Mr.
3 Ken Dockweiler, Ms. Lisa Towner, Ms. Karen
4 Stevenson, and Mr. Ryan Scott, please.

5 MR. DOCKWEILER: Thank you, Mr. Steele. I
6 appreciate you taking the time to listen to all the
7 feedback, and I thank you for the opportunity to
8 come and share from our company's standpoint. For
9 the record, my name is Ken Dockweiler, and I'm the
10 compliance coordinator for Bridger Pipeline,
11 speaking on behalf of Tad True, our vice-president.

12 I would like to use my time today to address
13 one key element of this project that seems to be
14 lost in most of the conversation around the Keystone
15 XL Pipeline, and that is the effect that the
16 Keystone XL will have on domestic oil production,
17 specifically, the Bakken oil shale here in the
18 Williston Basin of Eastern Montana and Western North
19 Dakota.

20 The Bakken oil shale is one of the largest oil
21 producing plays in the United States' history. The
22 Bakken oil is a low sulphur, high quality crude that
23

1 is in demand throughout the United States. Some
2 reserve estimates provide that it alone could double
3 the total current oil reserve estimates of the U.S..
4 Some forecasts are also projecting that Bakken
5 production towards the latter half of this decade
6 will grow to produce over 1.1 million barrels per
7 day, which is just under 15 percent of today's total
8 domestic oil production.

9 From a different perspective, if Eastern
10 Montana and Western North Dakota were its own
11 country, at those forecasted production levels, it
12 would be considered one of the top 20 oil producing
13 countries in the world. Clearly, the Bakken shale
14 is a giant source of energy and will help the U.S.
15 move towards energy independence.

16 Currently, the Bakken produces over 450,000
17 barrels per day, and as I said before, that's
18 forecasted by some to exceed 1.1 million.
19 Unfortunately however, today's pipeline takeaway
20 capacity is less than 390,000 barrels per day, with
21 expansion slated to add only 300,000 barrels per day
22 over the next three years.

23

1 This leaves at least 400,000 barrels per day of
2 domestic oil that needs to be trucked or railed out
3 of this region. Keystone XL is one of those
4 pipelines that will add essential takeaway capacity
5 to the Williston Basin. After completion, it will
6 transport over 100,000 barrels per day of
7 domestically produced Bakken from the Williston
8 Basin to markets in Oklahoma and Texas, making it a
9 crucial component of the oil logistics
10 infrastructure that serves not only the Williston
11 Basin but the entire U.S..

12 When almost one out of ten people in the United
13 States is unemployed, it is impossible to ignore the
14 impact of jobs. Montana has 7.8 percent
15 unemployment. North Dakota has the lowest
16 unemployment level in the United States at 3.5
17 percent. North Dakota's hot job market is mostly
18 due to the Bakken development.

19 We, at Bridger Pipeline, are continuously
20 hiring for new positions that directly involve the
21 Bakken. In addition, if Keystone XL is allowed to
22 proceed, Bridger will work with TransCanada to build
23

1 the on-ramp to deliver Bakken oil into Keystone XL.
2 In doing so, Bridger will create more jobs, not just
3 here in Montana and North Dakota, but across the
4 U.S..

5 For example, we will order line pipe and tank
6 steel from the steel mills around the country.
7 We'll use contractors based out of North Dakota,
8 South Dakota, Montana and Wyoming. We'll buy pumps
9 out of Colorado and Iowa. We'll buy electronics
10 from plants in Wisconsin. We'll contract with
11 integrity companies out of Utah, and we'll continue
12 hiring full time employees from across the country
13 to ensure the safe operations of our pipeline.

14 These jobs are in addition to the direct and
15 indirect jobs that Keystone XL will create. These
16 jobs related to domestic oil production can not be
17 ignored. To promote U.S. energy independence, U.S.
18 production, and U.S. jobs, the President and the
19 U.S. State Department should approve the permit for
20 Keystone XL Pipeline without further delay.

21 (Applause.)

22 MS. TOWNER: I'm Lisa Towner, I'm the
23

1 coordinator of the Montana Operating Engineers'
2 Apprenticeship and Training Program. I'm here to
3 speak on behalf of the staff and the apprentices of
4 our program.

5 We've already heard from many of the proponents
6 and opponents of this project. So rather than just
7 beat a dead horse, I'll use the KISS theory, and
8 keep it short and simple.

9 Please build this project, so that we can
10 reduce the amount of our hard earned dollars that
11 are sent to unfriendly countries to purchase oil.
12 Please build this project, so our natural resources
13 will maintain our country and not someone else's.
14 Please build this project to provide high wage, good
15 benefit jobs, not only for our country but for the
16 state. Please grant a presidential permit for the
17 Keystone XL Pipeline and begin healing the financial
18 and emotional depression that so many Americans are
19 faced with today. Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 MS. STEVENSON: My name is Karen
22 Stevenson. I have 100 years or more of ag

23

1 background in my family history in Montana. I am
2 presently a land owner, and I represent myself. The
3 more I read about this issue, the more questions I
4 have. And this particular issue, gas prices, raise
5 further questions. And my sources come from
6 Corporate Ethics International, National Wildlife
7 Federation and the Oil International Exchange.

8 By draining Midwestern refineries of cheap
9 Canadian crude into export oriented refineries in
10 the Gulf Coast, Keystone XL will increase the cost
11 of gas for Americans. TransCanada's 2008 permit
12 application states, and I quote, "Existing markets
13 for Canadian heavy crude, principally in the U.S.
14 Midwest, are currently oversupplied, resulting in
15 price discounting for Canadian heavy crude oil.
16 Access to the U.S. Gulf Coast via the Keystone XL
17 Pipeline is expected to strengthen Canadian crude
18 oil pricing in the Midwest by removing this
19 oversupply.

20 This is expected to increase the price of heavy
21 crude to the equivalent cost of imported crude. The
22 resulting increase in the price of heavy crude is

1 estimated to provide an increase in annual revenue
2 to the Canadian producing industry, in 2013, of
3 United States dollars of 2 to 3.9 billion."

4 So my question is, it sounds just a little bit
5 like market manipulation. I wonder about the
6 farmers who spent 12.4 billion dollars on fuel in
7 2009 and could see expenses rise to 15 billion
8 dollars or higher in 2012 or '13 if the pipeline
9 goes through. I would respectfully ask you to
10 proceed with caution. Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 MR. SCOTT: Good evening, my name is Ryan
13 Scott. I'm with the Consumer Energy Alliance. I'd
14 like to speak in favor of issuing this permit.

15 First of all, I would roundly reject the
16 argument that increasing supply of crude oil would
17 actually cause the price of crude oil to go up. But
18 what I wanted to talk about is the nine factors that
19 the Department of State is considering. And I'm
20 going to try to go through them in three minutes or
21 less. So, the nine factors that DOS is likely to
22 consider.

23

1 The first is environmental impact. The answer
2 I have there is the Department of State has
3 determined more than once that this project would
4 have a minimal environmental impact.

5 Number two, impacts of the proposed projects on
6 the diversity of supply to meet U.S. crude oil
7 demand and energy needs. My response is the U.S.
8 Department of Energy has recently concluded that
9 this pipeline would allow the United States to stop
10 importing oil from Venezuela or Libya.

11 Number three, security of transport pathways.
12 A pipeline is the safest and most environmentally
13 friendly way to transport oil, where one can avoid
14 hurricanes, pirates, et cetera.

15 Number four, stability of trading partners from
16 which the U.S. obtains oil. It's Canada.

17 Number five, impact across border project and
18 our relations with the country to which it connects.
19 It think it's clear that the impact here would be a
20 positive impact.

21 Number six, relationship between the United
22 States and various suppliers of crude oil and the

1 ability of the United States to work with these
2 countries to meet overall environmental and energy
3 security goals. And again, the Department of
4 Energy, through Secretary Chu, has attempted to
5 answer this question. And his answer was that,
6 "Given a choice of where we get our oil from, we
7 would prefer to get our oil from our friendly
8 neighbor, Canada." What he didn't say was we prefer
9 Canada over countries like Nigeria, Libya, Venezuela
10 and Saudi Arabia.

11 Number seven, impact to proposed projects on
12 broader foreign policy objectives, including a
13 comprehensive strategy to address climate change.
14 From well to wheel, the carbon emissions the carbon
15 emissions of the oil sands are approximately 10
16 percent higher than conventional crude. I would
17 submit if we pass on this abundant resource, this
18 oil will not only be shipped elsewhere, we will also
19 be forced to ship more oil into the United States.
20 And both of these activities would require very
21 large quantities of carbon to be emitted. The
22 conclusion is let's use Canadian oil instead of
23

1 shuffling this crude back and forth.

2 Number eight, economic benefits to the U.S. of
3 constructing and operating proposed projects. We've
4 heard different numbers. Twenty thousand is the
5 number that's been put out there. I'd say even if
6 that number is lower than 20,000 - and I don't think
7 it is - even if it were lower, I consider a small
8 town down I 94 where I live called Chicago. If you
9 have a company that's bringing in more than 15 or 20
10 jobs into the State of Illinois and the city of
11 Chicago, the Governor will show up. We're talking
12 about 20,000 jobs here. That is significant in any
13 place, also in Montana and all the corridor states.

14 I thank you for your time. I think this makes
15 a lot of sense, please issue the permit. Thank you.
16 (Applause.)

17 MR. STEELE: I'd like to call please Ms.
18 Debra Hanson, Mr. Mike Newton, Mr. Rob Shipley, and
19 Mr. Bob Sirertsen, please.

20 MS. HANSON: Good evening, Mr. Steele. My
21 name is Deborah Hanson. I'm a long time resident,
22 small business person, landowner in Custer County,

23

1 Miles City area. I am also on the board of Northern
2 Plains Resource Council, and many of our members are
3 those that will be affected by this pipeline.

4 Nobody has really mentioned this, but in this
5 pipeline safety issue basically all of Eastern
6 Montana is considered an "Area of little
7 consequence," because we have so few people. So
8 therefore, TransCanada really would like to have
9 lesser pipeline thickness for most of this area.

10 We would like to suggest or urge you not to
11 consider this permit until certain issues that we
12 have brought up consistently in the EIS process are
13 addressed. One of those would be in the safety
14 analysis, to analyze the risks of potential spills
15 with tar sands oil and also this alternative
16 thickness of pipe. We'd like them to be overseen
17 when they are building, to make sure if they do say
18 they'll use proper thickness that they really will
19 in these remote areas. We've already heard that the
20 government agency that oversees this has not done
21 this analysis.

22 I won't go into some of the other things. One
23

1 of the aspects I don't hear addressed very much by
2 anybody across this entire area is the absolute
3 necessary need for an emergency response plan. For
4 those that have not driven out in these areas, many
5 of you I'm sure have hunted and fished. But there
6 are areas where you drive for 60 miles where there
7 are no other roads. There's no cell phone coverage.
8 There's no ranch houses. It's very remote. If
9 there is a spill, what is the plan? A lot of these
10 pipelines will go under small areas where we have
11 flooding rains that could corrode the pipeline or
12 make it break. Who will find those?

13 The break in the Exxon oil pipeline pointed
14 this out, as they had no emergency response plan for
15 Yellowstone County, and they've been there for over
16 20 years.

17 The XL Pipeline is a 36 inch pipeline, compared
18 to Exxon's 10 inch and carries up to 800,000 gallons
19 per day. According to the professor of engineering
20 at the University of Nebraska, John Stansbury PhD.,
21 a spill of the Keystone XL Pipeline on the Missouri
22 River would lose over 134,000 barrels of oil and a

1 spill on the Yellowstone River would release 188
2 barrels of oil.

3 No emergency response plan has been released,
4 and we have repeatedly requested that they do this.
5 Once again, our rural areas are largely dependent on
6 local volunteers for emergency response. Local
7 officials and affected persons must have access to
8 and be allowed input on these plans before the
9 construction of the pipeline.

10 Every individual involved in the spill
11 response, local response, responders et cetera, as
12 well as landowners along the route and downstream
13 should be given a copy of this plan, so they know
14 what to do in case of an emergency.

15 And in conclusion, I find it hard to believe
16 that the XL Pipeline is in our national interest
17 when it's carrying Canadian tar sands oil to the
18 Gulf Coast, for the purpose of generating profit for
19 a private company, for private use and will likely
20 go to export markets. I don't see how this is going
21 to alleviate our national energy crisis, nor our
22 national security crisis. Thank you.

23

1 (Applause.)

2 MR. NEWTON: Mr. Steele, welcome to
3 Montana. My name is Mike Newton. I'm the operations
4 manager for Fisher Sand and Gravel's Glendive
5 operation. I'm speaking today in that capacity, as
6 well as on behalf of the Montana Contractors'
7 Association, of which I am a Board of Director's
8 member.

9 Montana Contractors' Association is a strong
10 advocate of this project for obvious reasons.
11 Construction employment in Montana has declined by
12 nearly 40 percent since May of 2007, and our
13 industry is largely responsible, I'm sorry to say,
14 for the high unemployment rate in Montana today.

15 We have experienced a dramatic decline in
16 capital investments by businesses, industries, due
17 to uncertainty about future economic conditions.
18 One thing is certain. American's will continue
19 consuming petroleum products for decades to come,
20 leading the TransCanada Pipeline company confident
21 enough to commit billions of dollars to the
22 construction of the Keystone XL Pipeline.

23

1 For those of you who don't know, and many
2 don't, in America today, every man, woman and child,
3 every American born today will live to be an average
4 of 77 years old. In that amount of time, they will
5 consume 6.28 million cubic feet of natural gas, and
6 73,884 gallons of petroleum. These aren't small
7 numbers.

8 Dozens of Montana companies and thousands of
9 Montana workers will benefit from the construction
10 of this project and the economic ripple effect it
11 generates. We can not afford to turn our back on a
12 project of this magnitude.

13 Importance to our state and to our country
14 simply because the environmental obstructionist
15 industry launches yet another assault to oppose it.
16 We saw first hand the result of the environmental
17 lobby's solution to the nation's energy needs. A
18 solar company filing for bankruptcy months after
19 receiving half a billion dollars in grants from the
20 federal government.

21 The Keystone XL Pipeline is not asking for
22 federal government hand outs. It is asking for

23

1 federal government approval to begin a process of
2 weaning us from middle eastern oil.

3 Fisher Sand and Gravel is based in Dickinson,
4 North Dakota, with operations in 11 western states,
5 including South Dakota. We will assuredly put
6 people to work on various aspects of this project,
7 as contractors and subcontractors procure
8 aggregates, concrete and other services our company
9 offers along the route of this pipeline. We've been
10 putting out bids and quotes on this project for
11 nearly a year and wait.

12 Nearly every elected official in America claims
13 to promote jobs. The Obama administration says job
14 creation is it's number one priority. Here are
15 20,000 jobs on a silver platter. It's time to put
16 our money where our mouth is and support real jobs
17 in proven industries, not just phantom jobs in
18 wishful industries.

19 The construction industry of Montana can and
20 will put hundreds of people to work in high paying
21 jobs if this project is allowed to proceed. Thank
22 you for your opportunity to speak, and please get
23

1 this done.

2 (Applause.)

3 MR. STEELE: Is Rob Shipley here? If Mr.
4 Shipley is not, than can we have Bob Sirertsen? Oh,
5 okay.

6 MR. SHIPLEY: Mr. Steele, thank you.
7 Ladies and gentlemen, I'm Rob Shipley, Miles City,
8 and I'm and American.

9 I tell you honestly I invested 50,000 dollars
10 in 1998 in solar energy, and it proved to be nothing
11 other than an exercise in bad judgement. We all
12 know about Solyndra; there's no use discussing it.
13 Thank you for your attendance and attention.

14 Item number one. I was born and raised in the
15 oil business. My family oil business, Beacon Carter
16 Service and WS Propane Company, of 10,000 person
17 Miles City in the 1970's became the largest, area
18 wise, Exxon jobership in the entire Rocky Mountain
19 region of Exxon U.S.A.. Yeah, Mom and Dad.

20 In the 60's and 70's, my father's desire to
21 hunt and fish in Northern Canada, Uranium City, at
22 the northern tip of Lake Athabasca, I was afforded

23

1 three opportunities to overfly and view the
2 Athabasca tar sands. It is huge. We must maximize
3 this opportunity.

4 I know what extreme capability the people of
5 Southeastern Montana possess. Review in your mind
6 my item number one above, and number four, which
7 follows. Stock and Bank Holding Corporation of
8 Miles City, Montana with all of its 18 or 19
9 satellite banks, is the 18th largest agricultural
10 lender in the United States. I am 64, actually too
11 old to drive a truck or roughneck on drilling rigs,
12 but I have served, in each category many years ago,
13 well. I do have actual experience in all of this.
14 I am excited that the considerable internet study,
15 the Three Forks Oil Play possibly that is below the
16 Bakken is recently thought to come within 18 miles
17 of Miles City.

18 This oil situation is going to be with all of
19 us for the next forty years. We might as well
20 maximize it. The Bakken will require over 6 billion
21 gallons of water in the next 15 to 18 years. We
22 must all participate and plan precisely, every
23

1 single one of us. I am positive you all are aware,
2 to fracture each Bakken oil well requires 800
3 truckloads of water and sand. This advance in
4 technology and this gift of natural resource
5 absolutely must never be exploited, but must always
6 be maximized.

7 My addendum. Remember the oil embargo of 1973?
8 My dad and L.P. Anderson, well known all over
9 Eastern Montana, were close friends and had been for
10 25 years. They each were big enough operators to
11 have been accorded special drawing rights from the
12 Montana State set aside pool. That was 38 years
13 ago. In this microcosm, let me assure everyone in
14 this gymnasium, they lived it. It was always better
15 to have them, their tank farms, their bulk plants
16 and their trucks full of diesel fuel than have the
17 money.

18 None of us needs to go through any of that ever
19 again. We absolutely must have this pipeline.
20 Thank you.

21 (Applause.)

22 MR. STEELE: Is Mr. Sirertsen here? If

23

1 not, I would like to call please Mr. Robert
2 Guilfoyle, Mr. Les Thompson, Mr. Jon Godfread, and
3 Mr. Glen Hagenven.

4 MR. GUILFOYLE: Thank you for this
5 opportunity, Mr. Steele. For the record, my name is
6 Robert Guilfoyle. I live in Shepherd, Montana, and
7 I'm an international representative with the United
8 Mine Workers of America. We represent working class
9 people in the United States and Canada.

10 I'm very proud to say that, in this room
11 tonight, there are folks here that are on the
12 opposite side of the issue that are very good
13 friends of mine. They're neighbors of mine.

14 I rise in support of this pipeline project
15 because I do believe that it's in our national best
16 interest. But folks that are my friends and
17 neighbors from Northern Plains Resource Council or
18 from the western organization, the Resource Council,
19 they represent farmers, ranchers and landowners that
20 are going to be affected by this project, and they
21 do have some very legitimate concerns, including the
22 need for an adequate emergency response plan. And

23

1 their concerns need to be addressed and should be
2 addressed through this project.

3 Please make no mistake, those folks who may be
4 in opposition to this are just as concerned about
5 the future of this country as anybody else that was
6 speaking in this room tonight.

7 You know this state definitely needs the jobs
8 in a bad way. I know there was people in this room
9 here tonight, most of them that have left already,
10 that would gleefully import and exploit undocumented
11 workers that come up here and do this job for
12 probably less than minimum wage. Because they're
13 all about cheap labor. But it's organized labor in
14 this state that is going to make sure that, that
15 doesn't happen.

16 And if this pipeline is permitted, and XL
17 reneges on its agreement with organized labor in
18 this state, hopefully, we'll see the mother of all
19 pipeline strikes, and we'll put a stop to that thing
20 so fast I think their heads will spin.

21 We definitely need the tax revenue. I don't
22 have to tell anybody in this room what kind of shape
23

1 our counties and our schools are in. Our roads, our
2 infrastructure, our bridges. But most importantly,
3 I believe that we need to sever this murderous
4 relationship that we have with the OPEC Middle East
5 oil producing nations.

6 It's my opinion and most of the folks that I
7 associate with, either our members or other working
8 class people believe that big oil is, they are
9 motivated by greed. If they had a patriotic bone in
10 their body, they could help us in this very dire
11 economic times right now by just taking a little bit
12 out of their unbelievable profits and cutting the
13 price on oil or diesel fuel maybe a dollar. But
14 they're not going to do that.

15 But the people that they trade with, the OPEC
16 countries, they take a little bit of their profits,
17 and they funnel that in what they believe is a very
18 patriotic way, by funding the terrorist
19 organizations that are killing and horribly maiming
20 some of the finest young people that this country
21 has every produced: our soldiers, our sailors, our
22 airmen and our marines. And it's wrong. We need to

1 sever that relationship. This is a national
2 security issue.

3 I've never picked up a newspaper and read or
4 seen on the evening news where a woman was publicly
5 stoned to death or beheaded anywhere in Canada for
6 just choosing her own husband or to unveil her face
7 in public or to try to pursue an education.

8 Canada, our great neighbor to the north, a
9 democratic country, great friends of ours, they have
10 an exemplary human rights record. They have
11 exemplary human rights legislation, both federally
12 and provincially on the books, okay. These are the
13 kind of people that we need to be dealing with.

14 Jim Keane, the senator from Butte Montana
15 mentioned earlier that the actual cost for a gallon
16 of gas to the U.S. public is probably around seven
17 dollars a gallon, over seven dollars. That's
18 because the U.S. taxpayers in this country have
19 provided a worldwide police force so the rest of the
20 so-called free world can get their oil to their
21 markets. And we paid for that. I'd like to know
22 what it takes to keep the Carl Vincent or the John
23

1 F. Kennedy in the Mediterranean or the Indian Ocean
2 just for one day? What that costs the U.S.
3 taxpayers?

4 We've got battalion landing teams of U.S.
5 Marines floating around in the Mediterranean and in
6 the Indian Ocean, making sure that, that oil gets to
7 those markets. We don't have to worry about that
8 with our brothers and sisters in Canada, okay? We
9 won't have to expend one life of one of our kids,
10 our grandkids or our neighbors, making sure that oil
11 is going to come through that pipeline. And I hope
12 it's not just the first pipeline. I hope this is
13 the start for a lot of oil that's going to be coming
14 down there out of Canada because they're not funding
15 the terrorists that are killing us. Thank you very
16 much.

17 (Applause.)

18 MR. THOMPSON: For the record, Mr. Steele,
19 I'm Les Thompson. I'm one of the Powder River
20 County Commissioners in Southeastern Montana, about
21 150 miles south of here.

22 I had a letter to read, but most of those

23

1 points and comments have been made over and over
2 again tonight. But there are some figures that I
3 can give you. Because last year at this time, Bison
4 Pipeline was being constructed in our county. It's
5 a subsidiary of TransCanada Pipeline Company.

6 We have nine miles of pipeline in our county.
7 Our county is approximately 60 miles wide and 80
8 miles long. It's larger than the state of Rhode
9 Island. In that county, we have about 900 miles of
10 roads that we maintain and the rest of our service,
11 our budget last year was 7 million dollars, less
12 some stimulus money and grants that we received.
13 This year that budget is the same, it's just
14 slightly over 7 million dollars. The difference is
15 2 million dollars of that revenue came from Bison
16 Pipeline. We gave our taxpayers, this year, a 30
17 percent reduction in their property taxes. There
18 are benefits to this pipeline. During the time, the
19 six months that the companies were in our county, I
20 don't know how many thousands of dollars that our
21 local businesses received because pipeline workers
22 bought meals, stayed in motels and used our local

1 services.

2 There were jobs. There are people in our
3 community right now that will tell you that they
4 didn't get a job with the pipeline. The reason is
5 they don't want to work. The ones that wanted to
6 work and applied got jobs. They might not have been
7 the pleasantest (sic) ones. One guy was on a four
8 wheeler 12, 14 hours a day, going in front of the
9 operation, making sure that they were on track and
10 making sure that the stakes hadn't been removed.
11 And in Southeastern Montana, it can range anywhere
12 from 20 above, while they were constructing the
13 pipeline, to 100 degrees. But he got work, and he
14 was paid well.

15 This Keystone pipeline is important to our
16 national security. It is in our national best
17 interest, and we should go ahead with the project.
18 I urge you to. Thank you.

19 (Applause.)

20 MR. STEELE: Next, I have Mr. Jon
21 Godfread. Is he here? If not, then how about Glen
22 Hagenven? Mr. Cal Unruh? Mr. Unruh? Okay, please,

23

1 MR. UNRUH: I'm Cal Unruh, life long
2 Dawson County resident and own a business right here
3 in Glendive.

4 I grew up in a farming community, just 40 miles
5 north of Glendive here that has both a natural gas
6 pipeline and a crude oil pipeline running through
7 it, and that predates my memory. I can't remember
8 this line going in. They've been there a long time.
9 My family has farmed and ranched over these
10 pipelines for decades without even really realizing
11 they're there, except for the orange reminders at
12 the section lines to not dig there.

13 As we're out hunting, hiking through the hills,
14 the cricks, you can not find any evidence that these
15 pipelines were put in. The land is totally healed
16 from that. Part of me being able to do those
17 activities. The ground will heal from putting this
18 pipeline in.

19 I know there's always been a lot of talk about
20 jobs and economic benefit to the local communities.
21 I think the overriding issue is that it's good for
22 the national interest because we're getting our oil
23

1 from a friendly supplier and not an enemy or an near
2 enemy. And in addition, you know there's been a lot
3 of talk about the oil that we burn in our cars and
4 trucks.

5 I'm in the flooring industry, very dependent on
6 the price of oil. If oil is not readily available,
7 I think we need to realize that, that can affect our
8 quality of lives in other ways, other than how much
9 we're paying at the pump.

10 And I think the other issue too is that I
11 believe this oil is going to be produced. I think
12 the issue is how is it going to be transported to
13 market? There's pipelines out in my home area.
14 They don't make any dust. They don't make any
15 noise. Now, we have some tankers driving around
16 that do make a lot of dust. They do tear up the
17 roads. I think the oil pipeline is a far superior
18 way to transport it.

19 And there has been talk of the spills by the
20 Keystone 1. I've also heard of ships spilling oil.
21 I've heard of trains being derailed, spilling
22 things. I think, one way or the other something may

1 happen. You know life is not risk free. Of course,
2 we want to do it in the safest way possible and make
3 sure that their standards are high, that they are
4 held to all regulations.

5 But in regard to the spills that have occurred,
6 I think somebody earlier testified how much oil was
7 spilled, and I think a lot of people are making a
8 mountain out of a molehill.

9 Bottom line is I think it would be a travesty
10 not to approve this project. I think, let's buy our
11 oil from an allies. Thank you for allowing me to
12 testify.

13 (Applause.)

14 MR. STEELE: I'd like to call please, I
15 think, coming down is Jean Altomare, and Duane, Mr.
16 Duane Mitchell, then Mr. Bill Linwood and Gaylon
17 Baker.

18 MS. ALTOMARE: Good evening, my name is
19 Jean Altomare. I'm here by myself. I'm here
20 because I believe the Keystone XL Pipeline is not in
21 our national interest.

22 The Keystone XL lobbying repeatedly tell us

23

1 that this pipeline will create jobs America needs.

2 And I'm not arguing that America doesn't need jobs.

3 But I am arguing that the jobs that this project
4 will create are the opposite of what America needs.

5 I believe America needs jobs that will sustain
6 us, and nothing about this pipeline is sustainable.
7 The majority of these jobs will last only a few
8 months, pay minimum wage and leave behind the same
9 communities and the same unemployment that there was
10 before. The first Keystone Pipeline passed through
11 South Dakota, and only 11 percent of those workers
12 were actually from South Dakota.

13 This pipeline is not the cure for Montana's
14 unemployment problem. America needs an environment
15 as well that is safe and healthy, and this pipeline,
16 regardless of what TransCanada promises us, can not
17 give us that. They promised one spill, on average,
18 every seven years for the first Keystone, and it has
19 spilled fourteen times in its first year of
20 operations.

21 TransCanada has already had to dig up 10
22 sections of the first pipeline after government
23

1 ordered tests revealed defective steel had been
2 used. It will use the same Indian manufacturer for
3 the Keystone XL.

4 TransCanada will not be the one left behind
5 with the soiled water and land. They won't foot the
6 bill when the walleye hatcheries are destroyed by
7 oil spills or the farmland is no longer safe to grow
8 food on. They are not going to be the friend they
9 say they will. Companies driven by money never are.

10 The jobs that America needs are the ones that
11 make America better. Jobs in solar technology, wind
12 farms, those are the jobs that will last for more
13 than one project, that will give our workers the
14 training needed to continue feeding their families.
15 Those are the jobs that will keep us from importing
16 oil.

17 According to the U.S. Energy Department, this
18 pipeline will not reduce our need for oil from Saudi
19 Arabia. The only way to do that with or without
20 this pipeline is by reducing our need for oil in the
21 first place by increasing fuel efficiency standards
22 and by using alternate ways of powering America. By
23

1 investing in those forms of power, we'll find the
2 jobs that Montana so dearly needs, without
3 sacrificing the land and water we depend on.

4 In presentations to investors, Gulf Coast
5 refineries have revealed plans to refine the cheap
6 Canadian crude provided by this pipeline into diesel
7 and other products and export them to Latin America
8 and Europe allowing the proceeds to be earned tax
9 free. Most of this oil will never reach American
10 needs.

11 Most important and most overlooked is that this
12 pool of carbon known as the tar sands is the second
13 largest pool of carbon, behind only the Saudi oil
14 fields. If we build this pipeline and fully exploit
15 this oil, it will be game over for the climate.
16 Ninety seven percent of scientists, all of the major
17 scientific bodies around the world, agree that
18 climate change is occurring, agree that it is the
19 result of human activities, and it is a threat
20 against America and all other countries. And yet,
21 the State Department refuses to mention this in
22 their environmental analysis. As if the air we
23

1 breathe and the climate we depend on are less
2 important than the jobs this pipeline will create.

3 Please, I ask that the Keystone XL Project is
4 recognized as not being in our national interest.

5 Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. LYWOOD: Good evening, my name is Bill
8 Lywood. For the record, L-Y-W-O-O-D. I am a
9 president of a company called Crude Quality Inc,
10 which is an independent technical company based in
11 Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. The business itself is
12 an industry level arms length third party technical
13 support business. It is experienced in, but has no
14 direct financial interest in, crude production,
15 transport or the refining sectors.

16 The flagship product for Crude Quality Inc. is
17 on the public domain website. It is
18 www.crudemonitor.ca, where anybody in the world can
19 find out more information about Western Canadian
20 crude than anywhere else.

21 Crude Quality Inc. is also active in Canadian
22 and U.S. crude quality associations, and I am here

23

1 to address diluted bitumen misrepresentations, and
2 to more accurately inform the decision makers and
3 influence those who are in this room.

4 I would like to point out that correct and
5 accurate information on Western Canadian crude,
6 Western Canadian crude production is readily
7 available. There is no need for conjecture or
8 speculation on the composition, character or quality
9 of Western Canadian crude.

10 In the interest of brevity, I have immediately
11 jumped to the summary. I would like to point out
12 that the crude oil products to be carried by
13 Keystone XL, number one, have ongoing and historical
14 composition data readily available on the
15 www.crudemonitor.ca website. I'd like to also point
16 out that the crudes in question are homogenous
17 mixtures that have whole crude properties, and must
18 be considered on a whole crude basis, and can not be
19 considered on a sum of the parts basis.

20 While diluted bitumen is called high acid crude
21 by the refining industry, the very complex organic
22 acids that are present in those crudes are not

1 considered and have never been considered corrosive
2 outside of a refinery.

3 I'd also like to point out that diluted bitumen
4 contains, in fact, less of the generally recognized
5 corrosion contributors, such as BS&W, water, salt,
6 sediment and sand than the majority of the crudes
7 that are currently moving around the United States.

8 I have a document that I would like to forward
9 to the chair, and I'd like to say, for the record,
10 that if anybody really wants to know the skinny on
11 Western Canadian crude oil, call me.

12 (Applause.)

13 MR. STEELE: Is Duane Mitchell here? Okay
14 I guess not. Then I'm going to move on, please, to
15 Mr. Dale Old Horn? And then, Keith Allen please.

16 MR. ALLEN: First of all, thank you to you
17 five for running an efficient, good hearing tonight.
18 My name is Keith Allen, A-L-L-E-N. I'm with the
19 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers,
20 Local 233. I represent 320 workers and their
21 families, and I'm also representing the Montana
22 State Conference of Electrical Workers, which has

23

1 3,500 workers and their families, ranging from
2 Kalispell to Mazula, and all the way across Montana
3 to Eastern Montana.

4 We support this project and believe it is
5 vitally important to the United States national
6 interest. We also support green energy and will
7 build it all. However, you need to realize that
8 without new power lines all the solar arrays and
9 wind towers just sit there.

10 Improving our economy, creating good paying,
11 skilled trade union jobs for journeyman and
12 apprentices, and increasing our tax base, all by
13 partnering with friendly nations is also in our
14 national interest. We're sick and tired of our jobs
15 being exported and our people sitting at home, if
16 they still have one. We need jobs in this country.

17 This pipeline could bring almost 300 million
18 barrels of oil each year. That's, potentially, 300
19 million less barrels of oil from the Middle East,
20 and that's vital to the security of the United
21 States of America. Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23

1 MR. STEELE: Again, is Dale Old Horn here?
2 Guess not, then I will call please Mr. Gaylon Baker
3 and then Mr. Martin Wollenburg.

4 MR. WOLLENBURG: Thank you. For the
5 record, my name is Martin Wollenberg. I'm the
6 business manager of International Brotherhood of
7 Electrical Workers, Local 532. I represent more
8 than 500 electrical workers in Eastern Montana.

9 There isn't much left to be said that hasn't
10 already been said by other proponents of the
11 pipeline. The fact of the matter is that this
12 pipeline will create construction jobs. It will
13 help the economy of Eastern Montana. It will create
14 permanent jobs for citizens of Eastern Montana as
15 well. This project will also create millions of
16 dollars of revenue for the state of Montana.

17 On behalf of the Electrical Workers of Eastern
18 Montana, I strongly support the construction of the
19 Keystone XL Pipeline. Thank you.
20 (Applause.)

21 MR. STEELE: Last call, please, for Gaylon
22 Baker? Guess not. Then I will call, please, Ms.

1 Alyson Reddig and Larry Heinbuck? I guess neither
2 of them are still with us. How about Ms. Linda
3 Twitchell? Okay and after Ms. Twitchell, we'll have
4 Wade Northrop please.

5 MS. TWITCHELL: Thank you. I'm actually a
6 morning person, so this will be short. I'm Linda
7 Twitchell. I'm the executive director of the Great
8 Northern Development Corporation in the northeast
9 corner of Montana, serving six counties. The
10 proposed pipeline will cross two of the counties
11 that I service, and there are three points that I
12 would like to make, that I don't believe I've heard
13 considered.

14 The first is since I've been involved as an
15 economic development professional for the last 15
16 years, I've seen the tax revenues decrease in my
17 counties while the cost to provide basic services to
18 the citizens has increased. Most of the ambulances,
19 fire fighters are volunteers. Schools have closed.
20 Hospitals have consolidated, and this tax revenue is
21 badly needed by these counties.

22 Secondly, the importance of bringing new
23

1 dollars to the region should be considered. These
2 are primary dollars. This is new revenue for the
3 state of Montana and for our counties, and the tax
4 dollars are sustainable dollars that will be with us
5 for a long time to support our private business.

6 Thirdly, our region has been dependent on
7 agriculture. Agricultural farms have increased in
8 size. I'm a third generation rancher in Montana,
9 and the young people have left the communities
10 because they need jobs. So, I believe that we need
11 to diversify our economy, and this is just one step
12 in doing that. Thank you for your time.

13 (Applause.)

14 MR. STEELE: I have Richard Hurry and Wade
15 Northrop, Russ Schwartz and Ken Stabler.

16 MR. HURRY: Good evening, my name is
17 Richard Hurry, and I am from Whitemore Lake,
18 Michigan, 40 miles west of Detroit.

19 I came to this hearing because I wanted to
20 address the issue of whether the Keystone XL
21 Pipeline permit request is in the national interest.
22 I am a citizen of this country and do feel entitled

23

1 to speak to the issue of whether or not approving it
2 would be in our national interest.

3 I do not believe this project is in our
4 national interest. In fact, I believe approving it
5 would definitely be against our national interest.
6 Here are my reasons for saying this.

7 One, the U.S. government, the largest single
8 fuel purchaser in the country is prohibited, by
9 Section 526 of the Energy Independence and National
10 Security Act of 2007, from using taxpayer dollars to
11 purchase fuels that have a higher carbon footprint
12 than that of conventional oil.

13 Since the Keystone XL pipeline will be
14 transporting thick and toxic Canadian tar sands oil,
15 and since this product has a carbon footprint
16 several times that of conventional crude oil, the
17 U.S. government can not buy any fuels transported
18 through this pipeline. Thus the pipeline can not be
19 said to be in the national interest.

20 In reality, approval of this pipeline is solely
21 in the oil company's interest. They will, in turn,
22 sell this high carbon footprint oil to unsuspecting
23

1 companies and individuals, most likely abroad. This
2 probably supports the contention others have made
3 tonight that this pipeline will be transporting
4 crude oil for export only and will not be seen to
5 benefit the citizens of the United States.

6 Approval of the Keystone XL Pipeline will
7 enable further development and exploitation of the
8 Canadian tar sands in Alberta. The environmental
9 destruction visited upon Alberta's land base, lakes,
10 streams, wild life and local residents has been
11 discussed by other speakers tonight and in other
12 forums.

13 Our national interest would be best served by
14 reducing the destruction of the environment that
15 continued development of the tar sands creates. By
16 stopping Canada's ability to transport it's toxic
17 fuel via cheap pipelines to U.S. refiners, we would
18 be signalling our country's intention to save the
19 environment instead of further destroying it.

20 Along with the above dire consequences
21 operating the tar sands has for Alberta's
22 environment, there are the detrimental effects to

1 our global atmosphere from producing and burning tar
2 sands oils. To propose the Keystone XL Pipeline
3 would encourage further tar sands production. Our
4 national interest should be in reducing or
5 eliminating tar sands oil production. As NASA
6 climate change specialist, James Hanson, said, "If
7 the tar sands are thrown into the mix, it is
8 essentially game over for the viable planet." This
9 is because burning the recurable (sic) fuels
10 contained in the tar sands will raise the carbon in
11 the atmosphere by 200 parts per million. That is on
12 top of the current carbon level of 390 parts per
13 million. Climate change would then become
14 irreversible at that new level.

15 Finally, your project environmental impact
16 statement analyzed three major alternatives to the
17 subject Keystone XL Pipeline Project. The first
18 alternative was to not approve the permit
19 application. This was rejected out of hand.
20 However, all of the reasons for rejecting, "No
21 action," were based on economic factors instead of
22 any environmental considerations. It is indicative
23

1 of the real purpose behind this pipeline request
2 that is being judged and perhaps approved on
3 economic grounds instead of on its impact on the
4 national and global environments. I reject the
5 belief implicit in the environmental impact
6 statement's analysis that keeping the Texas and
7 Louisiana oil refineries operating at greater
8 capacity is by definition in our national interest.
9 Priority has to be given to the disastrous
10 environmental impacts created from these economic
11 decisions and actions.

12 In summary, I firmly believe it is against our
13 national interest to approve and proceed with the
14 Keystone XL Pipeline permit application. You and
15 President Obama must deny this permit, so that our
16 current generation and future generations can hope
17 to have a livable planet with clean air, clean water
18 and a viable land base. Thank you for your
19 consideration.

20 (Applause.)

21 MR. STEELE: Is Wade Northrop here? How
22 about Mr. Russ Schwartz? Mr. Ken Stabler? Mr. or

1 Ms. Driery Bhebus? I'm sorry for mispronouncing
2 your name, I'm sure.

3 MR. BHEBUS: For the record, my name is
4 Driery Bhebus. I live in Baker, Montana. I'm 88
5 years old and have lived in Fallon County all my
6 life. I own and operate a wheat and cattle ranch in
7 Fallon and Carter County. I'm a World War II
8 veteran, and believe that I played a small part and
9 that we are here speaking English instead of German
10 and Japanese. I'd like to speak on three issues,
11 that we should build this pipeline, there are many
12 more.

13 First, we must encourage domestic and Canadian
14 oil production to decrease our dependence on foreign
15 oil. The money spent on foreign oil is being used
16 to destroy our country, like the scrap iron that we
17 sent to Japan during World War II. Let's partner
18 with the Canadians and build this line.

19 Second, we have movie stars testifying that the
20 pipeline will harm wildlife. My observation is that
21 the pipeline is the best thing that can happen to
22 our wildlife. We create wildlife habitat instead of
23

1 destroy it. The vegetation on the right of way that
2 has been restored is better than the native and is
3 better and a source of feed for the wildlife. We
4 will have a food crop for wild life in certain areas
5 of the entire 1,700 miles of the pipeline. Let's
6 build this line.

7 Third, we have to reduce truck traffic in our
8 Eastern Montana counties. It's only a matter of
9 time before we lose loved ones with so many oil
10 transports on the road. Our governor has made
11 provisions to put local oil into the pipeline.
12 Let's get behind the Canadians. Let's get it built.
13 Thank you very much.

14 (Applause.)

15 MR. STEELE: I'd like to call Cal Klewin
16 please, and Mr. Lauren Young.

17 MR. YOUNG: Good evening, Mr. Steele.
18 Hello, my name is Lauren Young, for the record, and
19 I'm a Richland County Commissioner. And I would
20 like to welcome you to Eastern Montana. I've just
21 got a couple of things here I'll go over. We've
22 kicked this can a long ways down the street, so I'll

23

1 just touch on a couple of them.

2 I'm here today to express my strong support for
3 the Keystone Pipeline and urge your support also. I
4 fully support this project because I believe it's in
5 the best interest of my state and the entire
6 country. Specifically in Montana, this pipeline
7 will increase the tax base in six counties and help
8 build an infrastructure, as well as funding our
9 schools.

10 Moving on to a personal note, I was recently
11 visiting with a gentleman in the oil business that
12 I've known for many years. He attended a meeting in
13 Halifax, Canada, and at the meeting, a
14 representative of the oil industry stated that China
15 hopes that the United States won't let this pipeline
16 be constructed because they want to take this oil
17 and build their own pipeline to the west coast and
18 run it through Canada for their own use. In the
19 end, the United States would be buying that Canadian
20 oil from China instead. Once again, the United
21 States is relying on an unstable source.

22 Another thing I've learned being a
23

1 Commissioner. We have a new saying in our office.
2 It's called "NIMBY." We want progress, just not in
3 my backyard. "NIMBY," is not in my back yard.
4 Everyone in this room arrived in a vehicle run on
5 fuel to attend this hearing, wearing shoes made in a
6 manufacturing plant and ate a meal today grown and
7 brought to their tables thanks to oil production.

8 This is one time where the step to a better
9 future for America needs to be in our back yard.
10 And by the way, in the back yard, the first Bakken
11 well ever drilled on the Continental United States
12 or in the Williston Basin is just a few miles from
13 my house, and it looks like I survived it.

14 In closing, the Keystone Pipeline is clearly in
15 the nation's best interest, and it will be a
16 valuable tool in strengthening our nation's security
17 and energy security. Therefore, I respectfully
18 request your support of this pipeline. Thank you.
19 (Applause.)

20 MR. STEELE: One last check please for Cal
21 Klewin? Okay, next I have Kent, Mr. Kent Liles and
22 Mr. Ronald Garwood.

1 MR. LILES: Thank you, Mr. Steele. It was
2 great that you could come to Eastern Montana where
3 these people that are affected live. These people
4 without jobs, or whatever reason, can get on a bus
5 and have somebody provide it for them. But we're
6 affected by this pipeline are busy in our own lives.

7 My name is Kent Liles, L-I-L-E-S, and I'm
8 impacted with two and a half miles of this Keystone
9 Pipeline. Now, I'm not a speech writer or a speech
10 maker, so bear with me. I'm a third generation on a
11 farm and ranch in western Dawson county. My son
12 lives on the original homesite and also has a young
13 son. Three out of four generations have served in
14 the armed forces of this country.

15 I impel the State Department to condition
16 TransCanada and their shippers that 100 percent of
17 this crude oil and it's byproducts be held for
18 domestic use in this country. Otherwise, it is just
19 a fast track for this oil to a foreign country.

20 This ranch site where my son lives was, at one
21 time, the one and only building between Glendive,
22 Montana and Jordan, Montana on the Jordan Trail. It

23

1 was built in 1878, two years after Custer. There is
2 a lot of history behind this ranch. In 2015, we
3 will celebrate 100 years on this ranch, the Liles
4 family.

5 At the first meeting with TransCanada that we
6 attended here in Glendive, Montana in, it must have
7 been in '9 or '10, we could not believe that a
8 private, for profit company at that time would be
9 granted eminent domain, which they said they would
10 have. My father, who is now deceased and who served
11 in the Pacific Theater, would be appalled to know
12 what is happening with this pipeline on this ranch.

13 In the final EIS under project description,
14 page 2-65, it states, "TransCanada typically does
15 not abandon large diameter pipelines, but generally
16 idles or deactivates pipe as the market conditions
17 dictate. This allows a dormant pipeline to be
18 reactivated or converted to another pipeline purpose
19 in the future."

20 How do we know what's coming down the pipeline
21 next? This is not in the best interest of this
22 nation or my farm and ranch. These words allow the
23

1 pipeline to exceed the boundaries of the original
2 intent of eminent domain.

3 Once again, I impel the State Department to
4 condition that TransCanada and their shippers, that
5 100 percent of this crude oil and its byproducts be
6 held for domestic use in this country. If not, this
7 is not in the best interest of the United States or
8 our national security, or my family ranch. Thank
9 you, Mr. Steele.

10 (Applause.)

11 MR. STEELE: Is Ronald Garwood here?
12 Okay, then Mr. Bob Phaleon? Mr. Greg Cross?

13 MR. PHALEON: My name is Bob Phaleon. I
14 am from Lindsay, Montana, and I am a landowner.
15 This pipeline is crossing three different sections
16 of our land, and for the record, I am for the
17 pipeline. I'm a Vietnam veteran, like some of these
18 other people, but I've only heard not even a handful
19 of farmers and ranchers, landowners testify today.

20 But my biggest concern is not the oil spills;
21 it's not whatever else. My concern is they are not
22 compensating us like they should. You hear these

23

1 county commissioners; you hear the mayors; you hear
2 whoever else, how many millions of dollars they are
3 getting for taxes, and they are just giving us,
4 basically, peanuts. And I don't mind being a
5 redblooded American and letting those people make
6 millions of dollars off of us, but I think we should
7 be compensated fairly. So thank you.

8 (Applause.)

9 MR. STEELE: Is Greg Cross here? How
10 about Ms. Kathy Green? Christian Many?

11 MR. MANY: Hey, thanks for having me. My
12 name is Christian Many. I'm an avian ecologist from
13 the University of Montana, Mazula and a graduate
14 student.

15 The Keystone oil is not carrying simply oil, as
16 our friend from Edmonton was explaining. It's
17 carrying bitumen and a chemical dissolvent called
18 dilbit. The mix is more abrasive, corrosive and
19 toxic than foreign, and it takes a lot more energy
20 to refine, adding to the water use, air pollution
21 and global climate in the refinement.

22 Addressing safety of tar sands oil, I'd like to
23

1 refer to two American experts, Carl Weimer,
2 executive director of the Pipeline Safety Trust. He
3 is quoted as saying that, "There is some question
4 about the corrosivity and abrasiveness and pressure
5 and the temperature that need to be answered. So
6 far, we don't know the answers to those questions.
7 Until we do, we would prefer to wait until those
8 questions are answered before that pipeline moves
9 forward."

10 Referring to another expert, the administrator
11 of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety
12 Administrator, her reply was, "The present set of
13 integrity requirements and the guidelines for
14 building, maintaining, operating safe pipelines."
15 She replied that the requirements were not designed
16 for tar sands crude at this point.

17 The effects of tar sands specific oil was seen
18 in Michigan, where an Enbridge pipeline, in 2010,
19 spilled 840,000 gallons of tar sands crude into a
20 tributary of the Kalamazoo River. One year later,
21 which is now, there sits a wasteland, essentially,
22 and an unreclaimable ecosystem service.

1 There is undoubtedly need for jobs in Montana.

2 But what kind of jobs do we really want? The State
3 Department itself states that the KXL will create
4 only 5,000 to 6,000 direct jobs, lasting an average
5 of three years, three years. Temporary jobs drawing
6 outsiders from all over the west. Where were the
7 U.S. jobs when we shipped in coke ovens from Korea
8 and sent them in the heavy haul over the scenic
9 rivers in Idaho and through Mazula where I live now?
10 They were outsourced to Korea because it was
11 cheaper. What is left when the boom wave of jobs is
12 gone?

13 In Fort McMurry, Alberta, Canada, the boom
14 effect has caused a high proportion of drug
15 addiction and prostitution. What will be left is a
16 pipeline transporting 700,000 to 900,000 gallons of
17 toxin through the agricultural heartland of America.

18 Now, imagine for a moment if the KXL burst into
19 the lifeblood of our state, the Yellowstone River or
20 the Missouri River. The KXL will be, if passed,
21 under construction, 20 times larger than the
22 Silvertip Pipeline that spilled this spring. The

23

1 Silvertip spilled 42,000 gallons in a matter of
2 hours and traveled 25 miles. Now, imagine the
3 devastation if the KXL does the same.

4 A University of Nebraska Ph.D. surmised 180,000
5 barrels of oil floating down the Yellowstone River.
6 Is that worth a few hundred temp jobs based on a
7 finite resource? When this disaster happens, who
8 will pay the bill? You want to talk human rights?
9 How has the industry compensated the
10 disproportionately high rates of cancer in Alberta
11 First Nations People downstream of the Alberta tar
12 sands? No, they haven't.

13 Are the folks in the Gulf refineries going to
14 be compensated for diseases related to air pollution
15 and water pollution from this additional refining?
16 No, they're not.

17 How about when the pipeline bursts into the
18 Ogallala Aquifer, the third biggest source of U.S.
19 agricultural irrigational water in the nation? One
20 of our biggest sources of drinking water. It's not
21 going to be TransCanada, I tell you that.

22 Do we want to trade our agricultural, ranching
23

1 and recreational jobs for haz mat jobs, for jobs in
2 the area of health, where we are just curing these
3 diseases related to toxicity?

4 I'll tell you who will be paying the bill, it
5 will be you and I, the people. I am absolutely
6 against the KXL, and I believe it is absolutely not
7 in our national interest. Thank you very much.

8 (Applause.)

9 MR. STEELE: Is Helen Waller here? And
10 after Helen Waller, I have Pat Mischel.

11 MS. WALLER: My name is Helen Waller, and
12 I want to thank you for holding the hearing here in
13 Eastern Montana. My husband Gordy and I have farmed
14 in McCone County for 57 years. During our years in
15 raising grain and livestock, we have been confronted
16 with many proposals: transmission lines, roads,
17 buried cables and coal development that would in
18 varying degrees impact our ability to raise food for
19 the market.

20 Most of the time, delivery of the proposed
21 service is in the best interest of the people, and
22 is coexistent with food production. But it is not

23

1 to be assumed that all projects meet that test.

2 The Keystone XL Pipeline does not. It clearly
3 is an export pipeline taking crude from Canada to
4 the Gulf for refining and will go directly into the
5 export market. The negative impacts are left behind
6 for landowners to deal with for the lifetime of the
7 pipeline and thereafter.

8 The pittance offered to the land's caretakers
9 does not replace the loss of productive capability
10 or cover the risk of pipeline spills, which could
11 contaminate massive land acreages as well as
12 aquifers. The Keystone proposal would affect over
13 18,000 acres of U.S. agricultural land. Those who
14 say that the land would be reclaimed, do not know
15 how long it takes, if ever, to bring land back into
16 full production.

17 Land is a finite resource. Over 3 million
18 acres of U.S. farmland are converted to other uses
19 every year. Our food is increasingly in the path of
20 development. It is in our national interest to
21 protect our irreplaceable agricultural land. While
22 we witness the disgraceful degree of growing global

23

1 hunger and starvation, it is wrong to allow further
2 degradation of our food producing lands.

3 The pipeline offers us no product that would
4 move the U.S. toward our own energy independence,
5 but simply uses us to provide oil companies with a
6 pathway to transport dirty crude to be refined for
7 use in other parts of the world.

8 Considering the negative impacts of the
9 proposed Keystone Pipeline, along with the dire lack
10 of national benefit, the project should not be
11 permitted. It is simply not in the national
12 interest.

13 I've heard a lot here today about promoting
14 Keystone's business project. But just remember, not
15 much goes on in the business world until after
16 breakfast. Thank you.

17 (Applause.)

18 MR. MISCHEL: Mr. Steele, my name is Pat
19 Mischel, 47 Road 261, Glendive, Montana. I am a
20 resident here, lifetime. I come before you today as
21 I did before as a proponent of this, but I did bring
22 objections and some reservations.

23

1 I currently have two sons working in the oil
2 field. They are making good money. They are making
3 something of their lives. I've been to North Dakota
4 in the recent year. It's now an energy state. I
5 believe Alberta is going to be an energy province.
6 I believe Saskatchewan is going to be an energy
7 province. I think Montana is going to be an energy
8 state. It's going to surpass agriculture. The jobs
9 are going to be there. Our sons and daughters are
10 going to be in the oil field related business, and
11 that's a good thing. But here tonight, I heard some
12 contradiction stuff, numbers. I heard 26,000
13 barrels a day, which isn't nothing. I work for the
14 railroad. We haul that every day out of the Bakken
15 right now. I heard 60,000 barrels. The last guy
16 said 100,000; do I hear 200,000?

17 I don't envy your job, and I do respect you.
18 Because as some of these people said, this is a done
19 deal. It's going to get done. Nothing is over
20 until the fat lady sings, and that's American.
21 That's the way it should be. You should be
22 impartial. You should look at all the numbers. If
23

1 this doesn't do something for America, this just
2 benefits Canada, then I'm against it.

3 They're good people. We go to Canada all the
4 time. If we are going to be partners with anybody,
5 if we're going to trade with anybody, maybe it
6 should be Canada. I trust the Brotherhood of
7 Electrical Workers, Keith Allen. Some of these
8 people who have testified, they've got good
9 intentions, and I think they'll hold TransCanada's
10 feet to the fire on building a good project. And I
11 also know that every year Detroit and American
12 automakers and people around the world work on cars,
13 and they make 19,000 mistakes a year. And I also
14 respect the landowners. If they make 19,000
15 mistakes on this pipeline, somebody is going to get
16 hurt. It's a big pipeline, 36 inches, 2,000 pounds
17 pressure. I don't know if I'd want it next to my
18 house, a quarter mile.

19 So in summary, I would say the benefits
20 outweigh the problems of this pipeline, and please
21 take all evidence and all testimony under advisement
22 today, and don't make your decision until you do so.

1 Thank you.

2 (Applause.)

3 MR. STEELE: Is Mark Nelson here, and then
4 Cody Drew please?

5 MR. NELSON: Good evening Mr. Steele. My
6 name is Mark Nelson, and I'm a retired farmer and
7 rancher from Dawson County.

8 TransCanada has agreed to construct an oil
9 on-ramp near Baker, Montana. This oil on-ramp will
10 make it possible for Montana oil producers to ship
11 their oil to domestic refineries. Things like this
12 oil on-ramp should be in writing as a legal entity,
13 signed by TransCanada and given to the U.S. State
14 Department.

15 In last Sunday's Ranger Review paper, I found
16 the real issue with the Keystone XL Pipeline.
17 Executive Order 13337 calls on U.S. Secretary of
18 State, Hillary Clinton, or her designee to determine
19 if issuance of a presidential permit to TransCanada
20 to build a pipeline across U.S. Canadian border will
21 serve the national interest.

22 I believe the pipeline will create some jobs

23

1 for Americans. The jobs provided by this pipeline
2 will help our economy.

3 I can see where other states could benefit by
4 building refineries along the pipeline. This would
5 be of a national interest if various states along
6 the pipeline built refineries.

7 Executive Order 13337 calls on the Secretary of
8 State and the State Department to show how the
9 pipeline will show the national interest. These
10 states building refineries along the pipeline will
11 represent national interest. Personally, after
12 studying four newspaper articles, I am in favor of
13 the pipeline. I think that with a project as large
14 as this, there are risks, and I've learned if you
15 don't take risks, you don't get anywhere.

16 The Environmental Protection Agency in these
17 newspaper articles, the Environmental Protection
18 Agency, EPA, says the risks are minimal. In a
19 little over four months, not counting monetary
20 interests, the TransCanada Pipeline would gross
21 seven billion dollars in sales of crude oil to the
22 United States. This is the amount that is estimated

1 to build the pipeline itself. With an adequate
2 market, transpipeline (sic) in just four months,
3 would pay for their pipeline.

4 The capacity of the pipeline, when it's
5 finished, will be 700,000 barrels per day. At 100
6 dollars a barrel, comes to 70 million dollars a day.

7 Some opponents might question about the
8 pipeline is will the refineries, presently
9 operating, be able to accomodate 700,000 barrels a
10 day? Of course, there's times to have storage, and
11 shipping oil possibly to the British Isles and
12 Western Europe. Also, TransCanada promised to make
13 an oil ramp for closer domestic refineries. This
14 oil ramp will be by Baker, Montana.

15 Again I say, I'm in favor of the pipeline.
16 TransCanada, a huge company from Canada, was highly
17 recommended by a 30 year old pipeline worker from
18 Corvallis, Montana. He said, "They are the best
19 pipeline builders."

20 One of the newspaper articles said, "Nebraskans
21 are too emotional about the Ogallala Aquifer in
22 Northcentral Nebraska and adjoining states." And an

1 aquifer is a water bearing bed of earth, gravel or
2 porous stone. And at this time, I wanted to mention
3 through my research in these newspaper articles, I
4 came up - - in Montana, I've read the diameter of
5 the pipe is going to be 16 inches of steel pipe
6 that's going to go through Montana.

7 This other lady that spoke a little earlier,
8 she says that, in Nebraska, the pipe is going to be
9 three foot in diameter. And that very well could
10 be, but I just wanted to be informative with my
11 speech to others and the State Department.

12 And I just wanted to say - - well, being
13 informative again, I just wanted to mention that I
14 read in these papers that there's three major rivers
15 in the state of Montana that the pipeline will
16 cross. And when they cross these rivers, the major
17 rivers, they will go 25 feet deep under the bottom
18 of the river with this newfangled horizontal
19 drilling stuff. And from that, I understood that
20 it was going to be a 16 inch pipe. And for more
21 information, the average depth of the pipeline was
22 going to be four feet. I wanted to mention around

1 this area, semi arid climate, you don't have, the
2 frost rarely goes below four feet, a lot of times
3 only three feet.

4 So, that oil is going to be nice and warm in
5 the winter time, just gushing through there and
6 stuff. And - - I'm just about done with that part.

7 Well, one more thing. Through my research, I
8 came up that the proposal is for six pumping
9 stations from, well the border, Montana down to
10 Baker. And of course Baker, they're going to put in
11 this oil on-ramp device. I assume that they load
12 the crude oil trucks up. From that point, they haul
13 it to a refinery, see, and I guess I'm not supposed
14 to be wasting so much time and everything. I see
15 the red light is on. Forgive me, I just wanted to
16 finish.

17 The Federal EPA agency, after thorough
18 analysis, says there is little risk that crude oil
19 will break loose and contaminate surface water in
20 Nebraska and the adjoining states.

21 So with that, I'll pass. Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23

1 MR. STEELE: Mr. Drew.

2 MR. DREW: Thank you, thank you for having
3 these hearings here and thank you for allowing me to
4 speak. I'm a fifth generation Montanan on my dad's
5 side; I'm a fourth generation on my mom's. I live
6 over at Circle, Montana, which is approximately 50
7 miles northwest of here.

8 I am a proponent of this project, but I have
9 mixed feelings about it. I am for the jobs. I am
10 for bringing the money into the infrastructure as
11 tax revenue because we do need infrastructure out
12 here in Eastern Montana. We need better roads. We
13 need money for our schools. Our counties, they
14 constantly cry about having lack of funding.

15 I've worked as an environmental technician on a
16 coal development project. I've worked as an
17 engineering technician on a national security border
18 project, border patrol station project. I currently
19 work in the transportation industry right now.

20 My feelings are that this project will probably
21 have very little impact on our soils, our
22 groundwater, our surface water and our wildlife in

23

1 Eastern Montana. With that being said, I also
2 believe that there is the potential for accidents,
3 but accidents do happen. That's life. That's the
4 way it is. But also on the same token, you can not
5 make an omelette unless you break an egg. That's
6 the only way there is.

7 On the same token, I do believe our landowners,
8 our farmers and ranchers should be paid fairly.
9 There should be some fairness there, and I do not
10 believe they should be left with liability for
11 environmental contamination if there is an accident.
12 And I do believe that they do need to have a more
13 fair compensation rate from TransCanada to these
14 landowners because their operations will be
15 affected.

16 Other than that, I say as long as they use
17 American steel, and as long as they provide American
18 jobs, and they use American made products, and as
19 long as that oil stays in America, because it's
20 coming from a friendly country, Canada, I'm for it.

21 Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23

1 MR. STEELE: Ladies and Gentlemen, that is
2 all the names that I have on my list. Is there
3 anybody here that signed in whose name I did not
4 call? Is there anybody here that neglected to sign
5 in, but feels the need to speak?

6 I would remind you also that it is completely
7 possible to submit your comments in written form, as
8 many of your colleagues have done, by either giving
9 them to me here. There is also a collection box
10 outside. You can write by letter. You can also
11 e-mail. Several ways to do this, but be sure you do
12 it by the 9th of October if you are interested in
13 submitting further comments.

14 If we don't have any other speakers, I would
15 like to-

16 SPEAKER: I would like to make a comment.

17 MR. STEELE: Yes, go ahead.

18 MR. RIES: Good evening Mr. Steele, my
19 name is Rob Riess.

20 MR. STEELE: Rob Riess?

21 MR. RIESS: Rob Riess, R-I-E-S-S. I
22 represent a pipeline construction company, Sheehan

23

1 Pipeline Construction, out of Tulsa, Oklahoma.
2 We've been involved with the Keystone projects over
3 the last three years. We are big proponents of the
4 project. And I really look at it as an opportunity.
5 A lot of these discussions, I've been in the
6 industry for 32 years. This is one of the most
7 emotionally charged pipeline projects I've ever been
8 associated with.

9 It's interesting to me though that one of the
10 things that really hasn't been touched on too much,
11 and I really want to just comment on that very
12 briefly, and then I'll excuse myself and thank you
13 for the time. Is the fact that we, as the
14 contractors, are kind of phase two of this project.

15 We talked a lot about the economy. We talked
16 about the number of jobs. We talked about the
17 impact on the environment. If this project gets
18 approved, we, as the pipeline contractors, as the
19 union contractors, as the men who are dressed in the
20 orange shirts tonight, the laborers, the guys in the
21 lime shirts, the United Association, the welders,
22 the Teamsters who spoke, the operating engineers,

23

1 we are the Americans that will build this pipeline.
2 We will be charged with that opportunity to
3 demonstrate to all the local community here, to the
4 local landowners, to the ranchers, to the people who
5 have concerns, that we have the core values to build
6 a safe project. We have the core values that are
7 supported by TransCanada and ourselves, as the
8 contractors, to do the work that needs to be done in
9 a safe manner, to provide a quality product, quality
10 workmanship, to provide environmental protection and
11 make sure that we return the lands to the areas that
12 they need to be and provide the best opportunities
13 for them.

14 It's a tremendous challenge for us. It's one,
15 that as an American, I'm proud to undertake. It's
16 one that I'm proud to be in that fishbowl, having
17 these landowners expecting the best results that we
18 can provide. And I'm proud to do it with my
19 counterparts here, with the unions, as a union
20 association, as the Pipeline Contractors'
21 Association, and as a proud American. Thank you
22 very much.

1 (Applause.)

2 MR. STEELE: It was our intent to close
3 this meeting at 10:00 o'clock, and we kind of came
4 pretty close to hitting it right on the head.

5 I would like to express my personal thanks to
6 those who are remaining here, just a small
7 proportion of those who were here at one time. But
8 thank you, certainly, to all of you for giving your
9 views about the Keystone XL Pipeline, potential
10 Keystone XL Pipeline project. As I said several
11 times at the outset, your views are important. They
12 will help inform the State Department's decision on
13 whether or not to grant the permit for that project.
14 And above all, I would like to thank you all for the
15 very, very professional and civil manner in which
16 this meeting was conducted. It was very, very well
17 done.

18 I would like to thank all those that
19 participated. So when you see them tomorrow on the
20 street, you can tell them that, that guy from
21 Washington appreciated the way that they conducted
22 themselves.

23

1 I would like to thank Dawson Community College,
2 and certainly those students and others from the
3 college community, all the local authorities that
4 helped us to put this on. Thank you all very, very
5 much. I appreciate it, thanks.

6 (Applause.)

7 (WHEREUPON, The proceedings were concluded at 9:58
8 p.m.)

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